



# Kohl strikes high-speed unity deal

## Reluctant backdown over Polish border

By Ian Murray in Bonn, Anne McElvoy in East Berlin and Mary Dejevsky in Moscow

Chancellor Kohl yesterday reluctantly withdrew his insistence that a border treaty between a united Germany and Poland should depend on Polish concessions on war reparations.

The issue had split his coalition Government and strained relations with his allies, but yesterday Herr Kohl's administration reached a compromise to reassure Poland that a united Germany would respect its post-war borders.

A resolution stating that Germany should sign a treaty affirming that Poles' right to live in secure borders "will not now nor in the future be questioned by us Germans" will be debated by the Bonn Parliament on Thursday.

In return for dropping his demands on war reparations and a guarantee of the rights of

ethnic Germans in Poland, Herr Kohl won from his Free Democrat coalition partners agreement that German reunification should go ahead by the swiftest legally possible method - which means German unity is now arguably possible almost overnight.

Meanwhile, in Moscow, the East German Prime Minister, Herr Hans Modrow, finalized his Government's terms for German unity during talks

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with Soviet leaders and agreed the necessity of respecting the existing East German border with Poland.

Herr Modrow, President Gorbachev and the Soviet Prime Minister Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov also established that Poland should be represented in any discussions affecting its interests and security.

Earlier, Mr Gorbachev had given a warning against any attempt by a united Germany to change the borders drawn at the end of the Second World War. "To use German reunification to legitimate revisionist plans would be to pursue and implement a policy fraught with very serious consequences," he said.

The East German Parliament is expected to welcome Herr Kohl's statement when it sits today for its last session before next week's elections. The three parties making up the conservative Alliance for Germany expressed relief yesterday, having earlier told Herr Kohl that his hesitation was scaring East German voters away from voting conservative.

On Monday, Herr Kohl said he would have been "criminally negligent" if he did not use the opportunity of reunification to settle the reparations and cultural questions for all time.

Since then - after two long meetings with Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister and the FDP's most prominent leader - the Chancellor must have calculated it was better to remove difficult obstacles to quick unity than to press ahead with claims which both endangered the government and caused

international misgivings. He emerged from a three-and-a-half-hour crisis meeting of the coalition leadership yesterday morning to announce that the disagreements between his Christian Democrats and the FDP had been sorted out.

The Bundestag debate tomorrow threatens to be rowdy, with the opposition Social Democrats (SPD) spoiling for a fight. Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, the party leader, has already said that the Chancellor's attitude is "a heavy mortgage" weighing on the reunification process.

As to how reunification is to proceed legally, Herr Vogel said this was a matter for the East Germans alone to decide. The coalition's approval of the quick route is bound to come under attack and some FDP members will be unhappy at being forced to accept it by yesterday's agreement.

The first round of talks between the two Germanies on reunification goes ahead on Friday, followed next week by a meeting of the four Allied powers - Britain, France, the United States and the Soviet Union - to review what is happening.

Meanwhile, Herr Kohl is to explain the present position - probably in writing - to Mr Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the Polish Prime Minister, who has been co-ordinating international protests at the Chancellor's position.

General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish President, sought to sum up his nation's mood in an interview to be published by *Die Welt* today. "As a Pole and a European, I am afraid," he said. "The dominant position of a great power leads it to use it at the cost of others." The general said he had been surprised by the speed at which the two Germanies were moving towards unity.

Last night, Poland gave a cautious welcome to Herr Kohl's statement. "It is undoubtedly a step concordant with our expectations," a government spokesman said, "but it is not yet what Prime Minister Mazowiecki proposed."

The Socialist group in the European Parliament is to seek an emergency debate on the West German position in Strasbourg next week.

# Policeman knocked out in poll tax battle



Protest victim: A policeman lying unconscious after he was punched and kicked outside Bristol Council House yesterday.

## Violence as cities set rates

By Staff Reporters

Anti-poll tax demonstrations turned violent yesterday in two big cities as the Prime Minister defended the community charge in the Commons and attacked councils for overspending.

Fifteen people were arrested in Bristol and three officers injured as mounted police clashed with demonstrators outside the Council House.

Missiles were thrown at police, who were also punched and kicked in the worst scenes so far. Police officers drew their batons when around 500 demonstrators tried to storm

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the council chamber. Further scuffles broke out after the Labour-controlled council set a tax of £490.

In Birmingham, demonstrators waving banners burst into the council chamber, where a young Conservative Party researcher was punched to the ground. Councillors threw themselves against the heavy oak doors to try to prevent the mob getting in. There were also rowdy scenes in the public gallery and outside the Town Hall.

In the Commons, Mrs Margaret Thatcher launched a fierce attack on what she called "profligate" councils with "little consideration for the pockets of their constituents".

# How Militant masterminds the protests

By Ray Clancy and Paul Wilkinson

Militant Tendency is masterminding the disruption of town hall meetings where the poll tax is being set, according to an investigation by *The Times*. In a carefully orchestrated campaign, supporters of the hard-left Trotskyite group have come to dominate the 1,500 branches of the All Britain Anti-Poll Tax Federation deliberately provoking confrontation with police at council meetings.

Mr Steve Nally, a prominent Militant supporter and secretary of the federation, attended two poll tax demonstrations yesterday, including the near-riot in Bristol where a policeman was kicked and punched unconscious. Mr Tommy Sheridan, chairman of the All Britain Anti-Poll Tax Federation, who was recently ousted from the Labour Party in Glasgow for his Militant activities, yesterday acknowledged the power wielded by

Militant within the organization. "Members know we are Militant supporters," he said, "but this has not prevented them from joining and taking part in demonstrations."

"Many protesters are life-long Tory voters who are motivated by their hatred of the poll tax."

Mr Richard Vernon, Merseyside Militant spokesman, admitted: "Militant has undoubtedly played a large part in organizing the anti-poll tax federations."

One political analyst said: "Mr Neil Kinnock managed to purge about 100 Militants from the Labour Party and as a result they were feeling a bit depressed. Suddenly in Scotland they latched on to the non-payment call and realized there was an opportunity to dominate a campaign and use it to their own ends."

They dominate without being too obvious. For example the secretary of a committee will be a Militant



Campaign: Militant's current issue.

supporter, that way they cannot be accused of putting Militants at the helm.

Mr Nally writes for *Militant* and has devoted all his time to the anti-poll tax campaign. He was at the violent Haringey meeting on Monday night where stones were thrown at the

town hall and 350 demonstrators staged a sit-down protest outside. "This meeting was noisy because it was a demonstration of anger," he claimed. "We feel it is legitimate that people should be allowed to express their anger."

Although Militant admits it is the force behind the federation, it plays down its influence over those who join the local groups and take part in protests. Mr David Griffiths, speaking from the federation's Coventry office, which is headquarters for the West Midlands anti-poll tax campaign, said: "In Scotland and in the national leadership of the federation, Militants have been guiding lights, but it is way beyond that now. It is becoming what we said it would be; it is becoming an army."

Mr Griffiths said he had become a Militant supporter recently and was still a supporter of the Labour

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# MPs urge fraud inquiry into miners' links with Gadaffi

By Tim Jones, Richard Ford and Jamie Dettmer

An investigation by the Director of Public Prosecutions was demanded yesterday into allegations of fraud and embezzlement in financial links between the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and Colonel Gadaffi of Libya.

Sir Patrick Mayhew, Attorney General, was urged by MPs to refer the affair to the DPP as Mr Neil Kinnock also demanded a full public inquiry into the controversy surrounding the use of miners' strike funds during the year-long pit dispute.

Such an inquiry would need to examine the role of the Paris-based International Miners Organization, which was set up by Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, in the dying days of the strike, according to moderate pit leaders.

Further pressure on Mr Scargill came from Mr Eric Hammond, general secretary

of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union (EETPU), who called on unions to find out what had happened to the money which they donated to help the 1984-5 strike. It was

learnt yesterday that tens of thousands of pounds, paid into trust funds to aid miners during the year-long strike, were never accounted for. No receipts or documents were kept to record them.

Confusion over the funds, established to help miners and their families survive for a year without pay, deepened when it was disclosed yesterday that three Labour MPs had refused to co-operate with

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Mr Michael Arnold, the official receiver of the NUM's sequestered assets.

The three Sheffield MPs, Mr William Michie, Mr Richard Caborn and Mr David Blunkett, a member of Labour's national executive, who was elected to Parliament in 1987, were all trustees of the

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# Afghan coup is foiled after attack on palace

By Daniel Treisman and Our Foreign Staff

President Najibullah of Afghanistan said last night that he had defeated a coup attempt led by the country's Defence Minister after planes reportedly attacked the presidential palace and heavy fighting broke out in the streets.

The attempted coup was the second since the last of 100,000 Soviet troops withdrew from the country in February 1989.

In a speech read on Kabul Radio, President Najibullah said calm had been preserved across the country. He said the attack had been led by General

Shanawaz Tanai, the Defence Minister, in collaboration with the Mujahidin resistance leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who leads the Fundamentalist Hezb-i-Islami party.

"Shanawaz Tanai has rebelled and is in hiding. I appeal to citizens and soldiers to capture him dead or alive and take him back to the Defence Ministry," Mr Najibullah said.

Mr Hekmatyar refused to confirm or deny the allegations at a hastily-called press conference in Islamabad, but he said: "We support what

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# Lost Turner watercolour may set auction record

By Sarah Jane Checkland  
Art Market Correspondent

A lost picture by Turner that for 130 years languished undetected and in peril from the sun's rays on the walls of a Swedish summer house could break the world record of £400,000 for a watercolour by the British artist at Sotheby's tomorrow week.

The picture shows Hampton Court Palace bathed in sunlight and includes such charming foreground details as a cheryman, a boy and a woman fishing from a punt, and ducks pecking at each other.

The painting was used as the basis for one of the images in the famous "Picturesque Views in England and Wales" series of engravings, a col-



Detail of the watercolour of Hampton Court Palace bathed in sunlight.

laboration between the artist and the engraver Charles Heath.

Turner was paid between 60 and 70 guineas for each watercolour. The Hampton Court engraving was published in 1829, along with views of

Great Yarmouth and Stonehenge. The painting itself was sold to a Mr Dickson at Christie's in May 1859, then passed by descent to its present owner.

Experts at Sotheby's are amazed at

its excellent condition, given the conditions in which it has been kept. Also yesterday, Sir Kit McMahon, chairman of Midland Bank, demonstrated his private support for British contemporary artists by subscribing to the *lotation of the Angela Flowers Gallery*. British bank managers are notoriously loath to accept art as investment or collateral.

Sir Kit is one of 94 people, including such artists from the gallery as Peter Howson and Patrick Hughes, and the gallery's local postman, who have subscribed to its Business Expansion Scheme, taking the funds well beyond the minimum £300,000 that was needed by yesterday. Applications for further shares can be lodged until March 20.

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TOURNAMENT OF THE MIND

● Today we enter Round Two of *The Times* Tournament of the Mind. Played over 20 rounds, the Tournament offers the chance to win £5,000 and a computer. The questions, devised and marked by Mensa, will test your word power, numeracy, logic and general knowledge. See page 13

● Europe's natural barriers of sea and mountain are being swept aside by a vast network of transport systems. See page 12

● Antiques and Collectables focuses on tapestries: see page 39

## Harrods report by DTI

Instant takeover bids, especially those mounted by bidders that are not quoted companies, could disappear as a result of the report by the Department of Trade and Industry into the House of Fraser-Loubo affair which will be finally published today. Page 23

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# Maze prison officer helped IRA to kill colleague, court told

By Edward Gorman, Irish Affairs Correspondent

A prison officer passed information to the IRA knowing it would be used to murder fellow officers, a Belfast court was told yesterday.

One colleague died in a car bombing, and the governor of a youth offenders' centre escaped a day later when a bomb under his car failed to detonate, Belfast Crown Court was told.

The officer was also said to have been involved in an elaborate plan, involving a helicopter, for an escape from the Maze top security prison.

The court was told that Christopher John Hanna, a former principal officer in the H Blocks of the Maze, passed information about Mr Brian Armour — including details of his home address — to a woman said to be an IRA intelligence officer.

Mr Armour, aged 48, vice-chairman of the Northern Ireland Prison Officers' Association, died in October 1988 when a booby trap bomb exploded under his car near his home in east Belfast.

The next day, a bomb was placed under the car of Mr Thomas Murtagh, governor of a young offenders' centre near Belfast, but failed to detonate.

Mr Hanna, aged 45, of Cross Lane, Magheragall, near Lisburn, Co Antrim, denies 11 charges, including aiding and abetting the murder of Mr Armour and the attempted murder of Mr Murtagh. He is also charged with possessing explosives and with offences in connection with the possession of guns by prisoners.

Mr Ronald Appleton, QC, for the prosecution, said Mr Hanna had collected information about fellow prison officers

and passed it to the woman he knew as "Anne".

Mr Appleton said Mr Hanna had told a fellow prison officer he had been meeting a girl who was a "Provo" at a cemetery near Lisburn. He had allegedly asked the colleague to ride "shotgun" for him to ensure he was not being set up.

Mr Appleton said that after his arrest, Mr Hanna at first denied meeting the woman — named in court as Roseanne Brown — but later admitted seeing her several times and passing information to her about Mr Armour's address.

Mr Hanna allegedly told police he thought Mr Armour's car was to be blown up and that he would be killed. He added: "I knew I was dealing with the Provos. They were a ruthless shower of people."

Mr Appleton said Mr Hanna had first become involved with the woman after helping to set up a jailbreak from the Maze last July. Mr Hanna was said to have told police that he took part in the escape plot because a prisoner had threatened his grandson.

In his statement, he allegedly said a republican prisoner in H block 1 had asked him to get prints of keys to the gymnasium and to a vocational training room, using a hair of ass.

Mr Appleton said the prisoner had told Mr Hanna: "We are hoping to get a few of our lads out using a helicopter."

Mr Hanna had claimed the prisoner had threatened that his grandson would be killed if he did not co-operate. The prisoner allegedly told Mr Hanna: "If necessary, you

could be getting the wee lad home in a brown box."

Mr Appleton argued that the defence of duress did not apply to the charge of murder. "Even if the threats were true," he said, "they do not constitute a defence of duress. There were many other alternatives other than to cause the death of his colleague."

Mr Appleton said the escape attempt was to have involved up to 25 prisoners and that explosives and guns were to be used. Mr Hanna allegedly told police he was to meet a van carrying explosives at the main gate and then use his authority to ensure that it reached H blocks 6, 7 and 8. The explosives were to be used to blow holes in walls between the blocks.

The no-jury trial was told that after his release the prisoner who had allegedly threatened Mr Hanna contacted him and helped to set up his first meeting with Roseanne Brown at a hotel near Belfast.

A solicitor for Mr Hanna said the defence would challenge the accuracy of statements to the police. The trial, which is expected to last three weeks, continues today.

Police in Belfast were questioning three men last night after the discovery of a cache of bomb-making materials in the Ardoyne area of north Belfast on Monday night.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary said the haul included 300lb of fertilizer, used by the IRA for making bombs. It was the third time in a month that planned terrorist operations had been interrupted because of leaks to the security forces.

## Spring show for winter wear

ALEXANDER GRANT



A hand-painted gold sheath dress, left, from Ian & Marcel, £2,125, and black silk velvet evening dress, £685, by Vivienne Westwood, will be among the showpieces of the British Collections for autumn/winter 1990, at the Ritz hotel, London, from March 10 to 13.

## First-time drug offenders only being cautioned

By Quentin Cowdry, Home Affairs Correspondent

Police in many regions are cautioning rather than charging first-time offenders in possession of illegal drugs, it emerged yesterday.

Experimental schemes under which drug offenders are cautioned and encouraged to seek counselling for less serious offences have been running for about a year in five areas, ranging from Aberdeen to Southwark, south London.

The policy has also been adopted in Sussex, Avon and Somerset. Six other forces, North Wales, Staffordshire, Thames Valley, Humberside, Hampshire and Lancashire, are to follow suit soon. By early next year, half of the police forces in Britain are expected to adopt the policy.

Usually, the caution is not made on the condition that the offender seek help from a specialist agency. However, in Southwark, the police tend to use the caution as an incentive to persuade offenders to seek counselling.

The idea, which police chiefs strongly deny amounts to a "backdoor" legalization of drugs, is that prosecution is an expensive and even counter-productive way of dealing with first-time offenders found possessing or even supplying small quantities of narcotics. Police and drugs specialists believe cautions do have a deterrent effect.

Under the schemes, someone arrested on suspicion of a minor drug offence is given a card with the address and telephone number of a local, approved agency.

Dr Nicholas Dawn, director of the Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence, which has promoted the schemes, said yesterday that only about 75

per cent of first-time drug offenders were charged. In London, the number of cautions increased by 210 per cent between 1984 and last year.

Dr Dawn said: "The process has been going on quietly for some time, but now appears to be set for expansion."

Drugs specialists are staging a public debate in London on the question of whether the recreational use of drugs should be legalized.

Det Supt Chris Flint, of the Metropolitan Police central drugs squad, told the conference, sponsored by the Action on Addiction charity, that drug misuse would increase sharply if the market were legalized.

However, Dr Anthony Henman, of the International Anti-Prohibition League, based in Brussels, said the increasing "desperation" and "despair" of the enforcement policies adopted by Western democracies signalled that legalization was an idea whose time had come.

In Amsterdam, where soft drugs have been legalized, the number of cannabis and opiate users had stabilized.

Prison officers yesterday accused the Home Office of putting their staff at risk by refusing to recruit more men. Delegates at a special conference of the Prison Officers' Association in Scarborough accused the Prison Department of trying to run jails "on the cheap".

Spokesmen said the lack of staff and proper training invalidated a current pay and conditions framework agreement under the Government's Fresh Start campaign, and meant pay agreements were open for renegotiation.

## Sellafield leukaemia writs are served

By Ronald Faux

Writs claiming compensation for child leukaemia victims whose fathers worked at the Sellafield plant in Cumbria were served yesterday on British Nuclear Fuels, which runs the plant.

Mr Martyn Day, a solicitor representing the families, said compensation of £500,000 could be sought in three test cases that will have implications for the whole nuclear industry.

The three cases were the first of 42 similar claims: 38 from Sellafield and four from Dounreay in Scotland. Mr Day said the actions were started before publication of the report from Professor Martin Gardner, of Southampton University, two weeks ago linking radiation in men working at Sellafield and leukaemia in their children.

The report said the chances of leukaemia developing in a child whose father worked at Sellafield were 300-1 against 2000-1 elsewhere.

Mr Day was appealing for the cases to be heard in the High Court within a year, rather than the usual three to four years. "These families need help now — not in a few years' time," he said.

The three cases are those of Gemma D'Arcy, aged seven, from Cleator Moor, Cumbria, who is awaiting a second bone marrow transplant to treat her chronic myeloid leukaemia; Alison Hope, aged 23, of Seascale, Cumbria; and the family of Dorothy Wray, who died in 1962 aged 10 months.

A first bone marrow transplant operation on Gemma last month was unsuccessful. Mr Day said yesterday that if a second failed she might die.

The company said yesterday that it would contest the cases. It was taking Professor Gardner's report very seriously. He had said himself that further research was needed "and we have commissioned extra researches".

The company has said that if the results substantiate the Gardner report, then more consideration would be given to compensation.

## 'Wealthy are more likely to survive cancer'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Wealthy people who contract cancer are more likely to survive than poorer people, once account is taken of sex and age, according to a study by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS).

The study says one third of the deaths from cancer of men and 8 per cent of women who live in council houses could be avoided by eliminating differences in social and economic conditions in the population.

The survey, which also confirms the higher incidence of illness in the north of England compared with the

south-east, is described by the OPCS as the first comprehensive analysis of survival patterns for different types of cancer taking into account housing, social class, economic position, marital status and region of residence.

Smoking differences accounted for a significant difference between groups. A link was also noticed between the incidence of lung cancer and unemployment, and between age at first pregnancy and number of children and the incidence of cancers of the breast, cervix and uterus.

With the exception of cervical cancer, difference between socio-economic groups were not explained

by differences in reproductive history. Women with children, however, had significantly better chances of survival from breast cancer than those who had not had children.

The analysis covered the progress of 17,844 cancer registrations over 10 years among 250,583 men and 262,484 women from the 1971 census.

The findings are the sixth report from the OPCS Longitudinal Study, started in the early 1970s, in which records of 1 per cent of the population of England and Wales are the source of continuing analyses.

Within the study, however, routinely collected death registration and

cancer registration information can be linked with the appropriate 1971 census record.

That means that information recorded at census of household and family type, qualifications, housing tenure, household amenities and social class could be available in the analysis of the underlying factors in mortality and cancer incidence.

Similarly, information on births to mothers in the study, and any deaths before one year of age, can be linked with the appropriate census record. Combined with information from the census, this provides a full family history for women in the study.

## Foecke 'cheating' appeal

## Professor claims university waged heartless vendetta

A leading mathematician alleged yesterday that university officials had waged a heartless four-year vendetta against Mr Francis Foecke, who is accused of cheating in final-year examinations.

Professor Toby Lewis said he was 100 per cent sure of Mr Foecke's innocence. He alleged that university dons had pursued the student with total "disregard to material or moral costs".

The retired mathematician was giving evidence yesterday as Mr Foecke's fight to clear his name against the university that withheld his degree entered its thirteenth day.

Bristol University dons withheld Mr Foecke's first-class honours degree in 1986 after accusing him of copying the original examination solutions.

Mr Foecke, aged 32, who has been described by lecturers as a "poor student", attained 13 A passes in mathematics and computer sciences. The university withheld the degree, claiming some answers contained "remarkable" coincidences, even errors, found only in the original examination draft papers.

Professor Lewis, aged 72, a leading statistician on the board of East Anglia University, became involved in the case a year ago after reading a lengthy article on Mr Foecke's

plight. He said he was so incensed by the situation that he wrote to Buckingham Palace stating his "unreserved" support for Mr Foecke.

"I see that Francis Foecke is the target and the victim of a

What is this really all about? What are we doing here?

heartless vendetta pursued for nearly four years by a famous university and certain members of its staff without conscience or sensible reason," he said.

"They pursued Mr Foecke with reckless regard for the



Mr Foecke: Seen as victim of vendetta.

human consequences and for the cost to the university, let alone to the taxpayer."

The professor agreed to be one of Mr Foecke's witnesses during his appeal tribunal hearing last December. After studying all the material concerning the case, Professor Lewis said at the time that he was 98 per cent sure of Mr Foecke's innocence.

However, he said: "After spending long hours in January and February studying many further documents and papers, and after sitting through twelve-and-a-half days of hearings and following through the evidence, it's now quite clear that Francis Foecke is innocent of these charges."

Mr Foecke, of Clifton, Bristol, has gambled everything to clear his name. He and his wife, Priscilla, were forced to sell both their homes to raise the £110,000 costs of defending his name.

"What is this really all about?" the professor said yesterday. "What are we doing here?"

"The university has pursued Mr Foecke to this day with no expression of regret, let alone remorse."

Mr Alan Jones, QC, counsel for Mr Foecke, has appealed to the tribunal to dismiss the allegations and honour Mr Foecke with a first-class degree.

## PORTFOLIO

## Timely win for holiday to visit sister

The winner of yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum competition was Brigadier William Aylin, of Ecclestone in Staffordshire.

Celebrating his second Portfolio win, Brigadier Aylin, aged 80, will spend the money on his forthcoming holiday in Kenya. "I gave it all to the grandchildren last time," he said. "But I'm flying out to Nairobi next week to visit my sister, so I

shall use this windfall to pay my way."

"It will also enable me to be rather more adventurous than we had originally planned," Brigadier Aylin added. "Now we can hire a small aircraft and fly down to the coast at Mombasa."

"I spent most of the last war in North Africa, but this is my first visit to Kenya and I'm really looking forward to it."

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## Plant breeders demand seed royalties

By Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent

Plant breeders are fighting for millions of pounds which, they say, they lose every year because farmers do not pay royalty on seed they "save" from their grain harvest for re-sowing.

Farmers, however, do not see why they should be penalized for pursuing the centuries-old practice, particularly at a time when action taken in Brussels to curb excess cereal production is squeezing their profit margins.

The plant breeders maintain that the farmers are getting away with theft of "intellectual property" — the fruits of the costly research which companies undertake to produce new higher-quality seed varieties. It is estimated that about 25 per

cent of all cereal seed sown in Britain is "farm saved". The British Society of Plant Breeders (BSPB) believes it is losing £4 million a year in revenue in Britain and £50 million a year across Europe, and wants the practice stopped.

The dispute goes back to 1964 when the Plant Varieties and Seeds Act gave breeders exclusivity rights over any seed variety they developed "for the purposes of marketing it", and enabled them to charge royalties for seed purchased by farmers from certified merchants. Those range from £13 to £50 a ton.

"Farm-saved seed was not covered in the Act because the farmer was using it himself and not marketing it," Mr Don McNeill, of the BSPB, said. "This did not matter at the time because farm-saved seed was then only a very small proportion

of the total, but now the royalties we are getting do not begin to cover the cost of our research programmes."

"Twelve years of research may go into producing the genetic improvement of a new seed variety, and if this improvement enables the farmer to make a commercial gain there should be some recompense to the original breeder. Once the farmer has bought the seed variety he can reproduce it exactly."

The National Farmers' Union is prepared to discuss some form of royalty for seed that is saved and then commercially cleaned. However, Mr Jimmy Graham, secretary of the union's seeds committee, said: "It is the historic right of the farmer to save his own seed and clean it with his own equipment on his own farm without paying a royalty."



## Doubts continue over fate of money after year-long industrial dispute

### No records of miners' trust funds

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Tens of thousands of pounds paid into miners' trust funds during the year-long miners' strike were not accounted for and no receipts or documents were kept to record them.

The confusion over the funds, established to help miners and families survive for a year without pay, increased when three MPs refused to co-operate with Mr Michael Arnold, official receiver of the National Union of Mineworkers' sequestered assets from December 1984 to June 1986.

The three Sheffield Labour MPs, Mr William Michie, Mr Richard Caborn and Mr David Blunkett, who was elected in 1987, were trustees of the Miners Solidarity Fund which channelled funds collected from sympathizers to strikers and families. The trust also used the money to buy food and clothing and provide soup kitchens in coal communities.

Although the trustees were responsible for the fund, thousands of pounds collected never reached it because of the manner in which the money was distributed. Throughout the communities, thousands of pounds in notes and coins

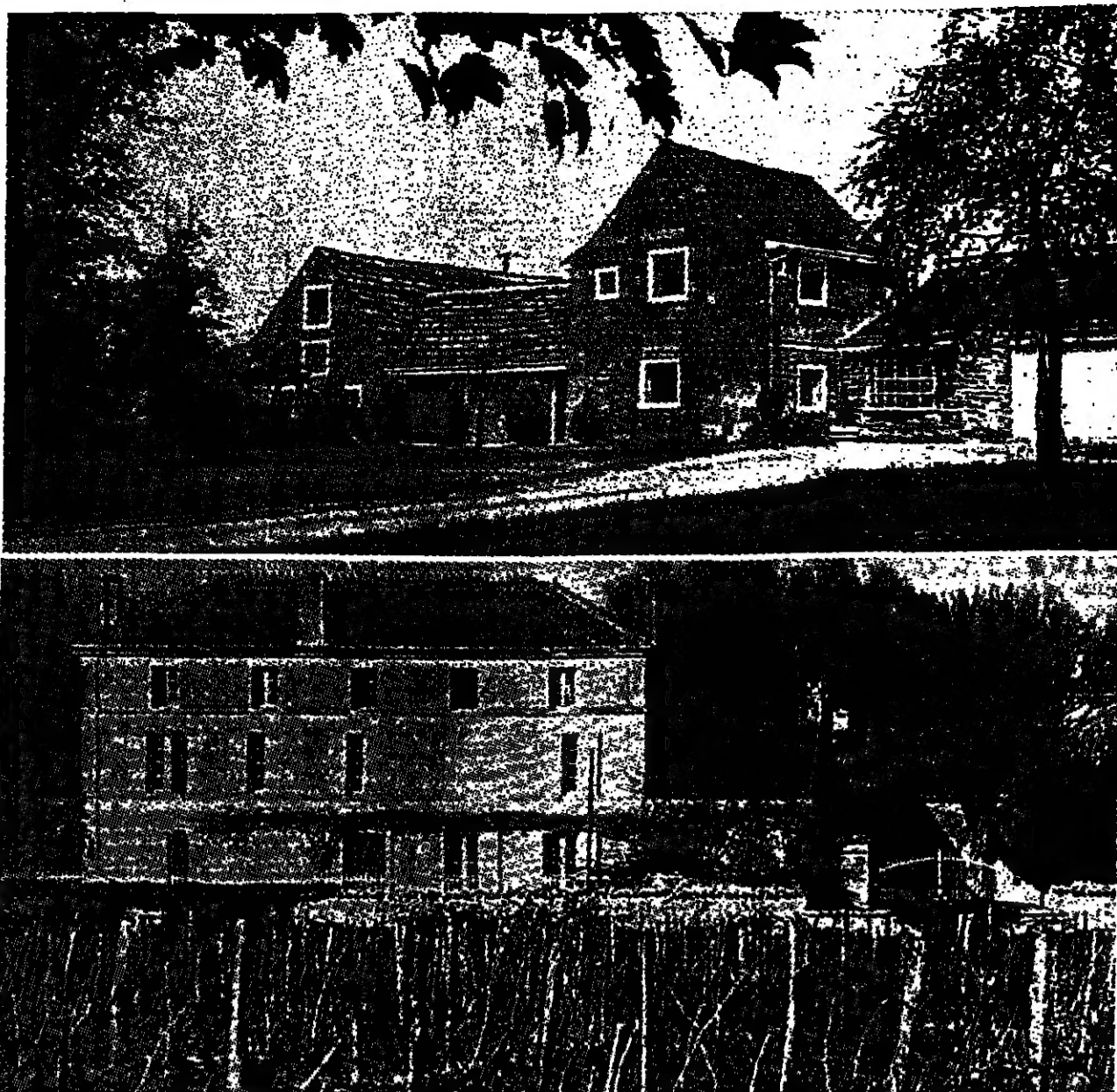
were merely handed out directly to miners without any account being kept.

Mr Blunkett said yesterday they had refused to co-operate with Mr Arnold after taking legal advice as they did not wish the money to be sequestered as part of the funds of the NUM. He said that people were starving and it was important to separate the monies donated to the trust from the union.

Mr Blunkett said after the strike that the trust was reconstituted as a charity to help miners who had been unable to get their jobs back.

Mr Arnold said that, although he had been refused a copy of the trust deed, "I did examine some files which seemed to me to show that care was taken to ensure that monies genuinely donated for hardship was paid into the Miners Solidarity Fund."

Mr Arnold confirmed also he had no knowledge of what became of the women's action fund, also set up for hardship purposes. It had not been in his remit and he had not seen the trustees or accounts. "My inquiries were incomplete at the time of my discharge."



Above, Treelands Cottage, Worsbrough, near Barnsley, South Yorkshire, owned by Mr Arthur Scargill. Below, the house at Coudesville, near Angoulême, France, home of Mr Roger Windsor, former NUM chief executive officer, and his family.

### Call for inquiry into activities of Paris group

By Jamie Dettmer

A full union inquiry into well, again in an attempt to prevent the NUM's official receiver from sequestering the funds.

The six-hour meeting in 1984 between Mr Scargill and Mr Salem Ibrahim, Colonel Gaddafi's paymaster, which was revealed by Central Television's *The Cook Report* on Monday, took place in the IMO's offices, then in the Paris headquarters of the CGT, the French version of the TUC.

Last summer, an IMO account at the Bank of Ireland's international banking division came to light and led to calls by moderate miners for Mr Scargill to explain why he had failed to inform the NUM's national executive of its existence.

The account, which contained £279,000, came to light at a time when Mr Scargill was pressing local union areas for money to help to ease the financial plight of the NUM's Sheffield headquarters.

The joint signatures for many of the IMO accounts in Dublin, Sheffield and Paris are Mr Scargill, Mr Simon, Mr Barry Swann, an Australian miners' leader, and Mr Mikhail Strebay, a Russian pit leader.

Mr Scargill told the executive that a full account of the financial affairs of the IMO would be made by the end of last year. No account has so far been furnished.

An IMO spokesman said yesterday that the organization's financial affairs were private. Although Mr Scargill claims the IMO is totally separate from the NUM, moderate British miners believe the organizations have on occasions been almost one and the same.

Mr Scargill has used the IMO, which has 6.5 million affiliated members, as an international platform for his hard-line politics. Moderate international union leaders said yesterday that the allegations about Libyan and Soviet money and contacts would undermine Mr Scargill's ambitious plans to spread the influence of the IMO into other union organizations.

Other IMO-linked accounts were opened in Europe in 1985 and 1986. It is believed that money allegedly connected with the NUM was placed in these accounts as

well, again in an attempt to prevent the NUM's official receiver from sequestering the funds.

The NUM's official receiver from sequestering the funds.

well, again in an attempt to prevent the NUM's official receiver from sequestering the funds.

### Walker condemns flood town looters

By Ronald Faux

Looters who stole from homes abandoned after the floods at Towyn in Clywd were branded as "sick and nasty" by Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Wales, when he visited the stricken area yesterday.

North Wales Police confirmed that 12 cases of theft from flooded homes had been reported.

"I am appalled. I think it is the most wicked thing anyone can do. I only hope the culprits are caught and given the punishment they deserve for such a ghastly deed," Mr Walker said.

He was speaking after meeting Mr and Mrs Robert Howard in their flood-ravaged bungalow. They had reported that their home had been broken into during the night although it transpired after Mr Walker's visit that their broken back window was caused by the fire brigade seeking to make a gas fitting safe.

"I wish they had left a note. We really did think we had been burgled," Mrs Howard said.

Other cases had a much less innocent explanation. They included the theft of jewellery and the disappearance of a high-performance saloon car

trapped in floodwater at Kinnel Bay. Police believe the vehicle had been towed away by thieves.

Mr Walker hinted there could be more help from the Government in paying for the repair work necessary. He pointed out to council officials that the 75 per cent payable by the Government under the Bellwyn formula applied only to emergency work and not to the long-term capital investment that might be needed after the flood.

"The major expenditure is much more likely to be in capital costs that will follow this flood. There are capital grants available to local authorities, national grants on the needs elements to local authorities and plenty of machinery to assess the problems and deal with them," he said. "Sea defences on the North Welsh coast must be constantly reviewed".

Mr William Breese, chief executive of Colwyn Borough Council, said after the meeting that local authorities had been encouraged by Mr Walker. "We have got as good as we could have expected and he supported our view of the need to improve the sea defences," he said.

### Computer 'banishes rivals to museum'

By Nick Nuttall Technology Correspondent

British engineers have developed a commercial, speech-activated computer that can be understood by "idiots and children", it was announced yesterday.

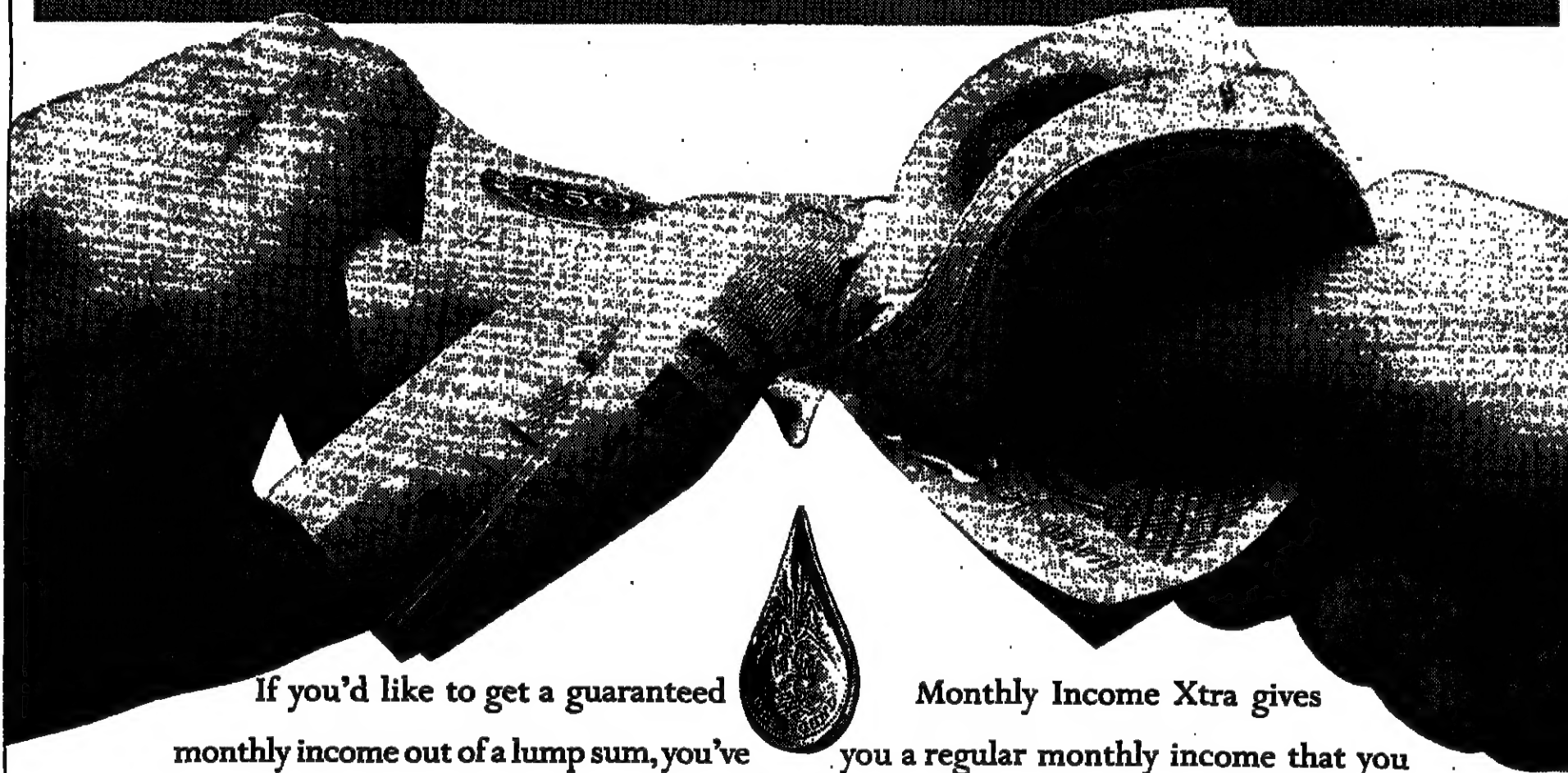
The computer can be controlled by the voice of a person bereft of even the meagrest smattering of advanced computer language or technical knowledge, they claim.

The system, designed to recognize 100 words of human speech, could consign the familiar computer keyboard to the museum, it is believed.

Osprey, a prototype computer, was unveiled in London by scientists at Edinburgh University's Centre for Speech Technology Research, the team behind the scheme.

They are seeking industry backing to develop applications for Osprey and to boost its voice-recognition dictionary to several thousand

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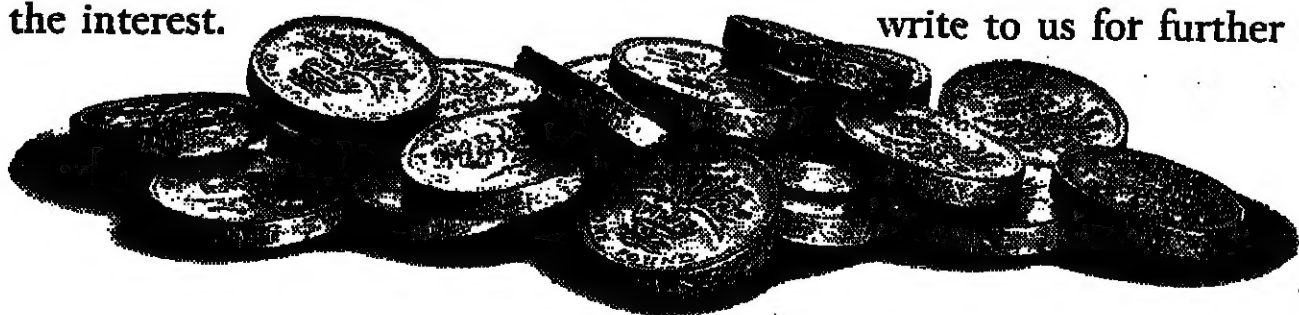
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## Air controllers to have working day limited to 10 hours

By Harvey Elliott  
Air Correspondent

Air traffic controllers' working hours may be limited by law under proposals being studied by the Civil Aviation Authority.

An independent committee, which spent more than a year studying fatigue among controllers, has recommended that they be banned from working more than 10 hours a day and must take a break after two hours at the radar screens. At the moment there is no legal limit on the hours they can work.

The authority said it welcomed the report in principle, but said it may not be implemented for at least a year while further consultations are carried out.

The Institution of Professionals, Managers and Specialists, which has been pressing for the new regulations for more than five years, immediately condemned the delay. Mr Bill Brett, the union's general secretary, said: "There is no reason why this should not be implemented in time for the summer. To take another 18 months to put in into practice is unacceptable."

The seven-man committee,

The boom in air travel is likely to continue for at least 15 years, giving the world's aircraft manufacturers a potential market worth \$626 billion (£384 billion) for jets to replace and enlarge fleets (Harvey Elliott writes). Boeing Commercial Airplane Group has, in just over a year, increased by more than 20 per cent its estimate of the number needed. It believes that 9,935 new aircraft will be required between now and 2005.

under the chairmanship of the solicitor Mr David Sawyer, was set up when fears were voiced that air traffic controllers were being overworked because of the surge in air travel. It found no evidence of widespread fatigue, but some isolated cases of excessive hours being worked had revealed a number of "unsatisfactory situations".

At one airport, controllers worked for two months without any time off on a roster which varied from 2pm until 9.30pm on day one, 7am to 2pm on day two, and 9.30pm to 3am followed by 2pm to 9.30pm again on day three.

Another airport had two controllers manning traffic for

up to 14 hours a day without breaks on a two days on, two days off rota. There had been no leave for six months.

At a third, three staff operated the airport six days a week between 7am and 10pm, with two coping when one was sick or on holiday.

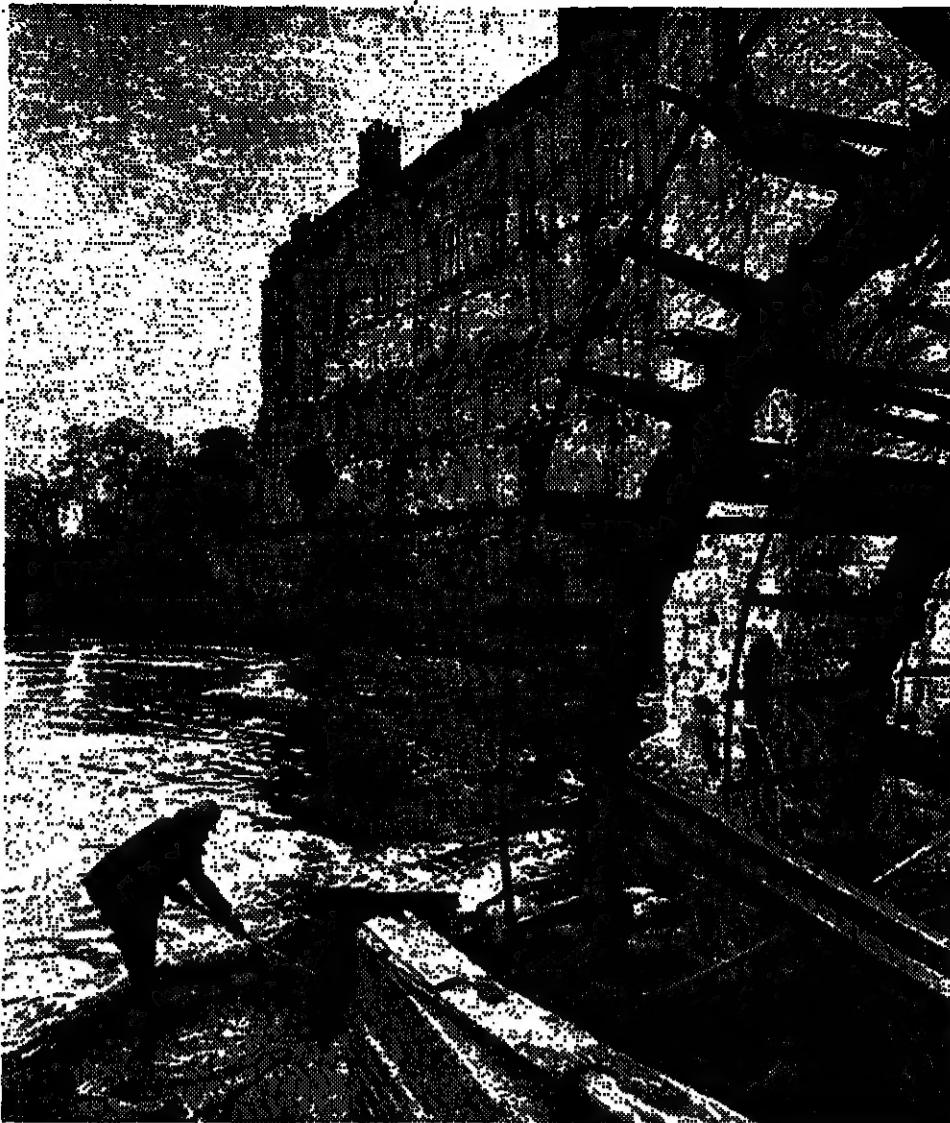
"We believe that in the interests of safety it would be unwise for the hours of work of civil air traffic controllers to remain formally and anomalously unregulated," the report says.

"Our task is to determine if we can what, if any, regulation of hours is necessary to guard against controllers crossing a threshold beyond which immediately lies potential fatigue, exhaustion and collapse."

In general, the 75 per cent of controllers employed by the CAA work within the proposed guidelines, but commercial pressures often lead to smaller airports trying to persuade controllers to work much longer. The regulations are therefore expected to hit those airports particularly hard and could lead either to more staff being recruited or fewer flights being handled.

Pilots' hours are to be curtailed under new CAA rules to be introduced in May.

## Water mill to be restored



The 200-year-old water mill at Warwick Castle whose Victorian engine house, created to generate electricity, is being restored to create a working museum. Temporary dams have been placed across part of the Avon to allow engineers to repair the wheel and culverts.

## Judges refuse to lift bar on Wapping cases

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Director of Public Prosecutions failed yesterday to overturn a High Court decision blocking criminal proceedings against seven police officers involved in clashes outside the News International plant in Wapping, east London, in January 1987.

Mr Anthony Hooper, QC, for the DPP, Mr Allan Green, QC, asked two judges to certify that the case raised points of law of general public importance for urgent consideration by the House of Lords.

That concerned the extent to which the courts were entitled to stop proceedings because of delay. But Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Garland refused the application. The judges gave no reasons.

Asked later if there would now be a request direct to the House of Lords to consider the case, a spokesman for the DPP said: "We have not made a decision yet. We need to consider the situation."

Last December the two judges upheld a decision by the Bow Street stipendiary magistrate, Mr Ronald Bartle, discharging cases against six officers accused of conspiring to pervert the course of justice

because of the prosecution's lengthy delay in bringing proceedings.

The officers were Sergeant Robert Goodger and Constables Ian Storrar, Nigel Pratt, Gavin Stett, Terence Chitty and Ivan Szubin.

In the case of the seventh officer, Constable Russell Cherry, they ruled that a charge of unlawful wounding should be quashed because the decision of the magistrate, Mr Geoffrey Wicks, to allow it to proceed was based on "flawed findings".

PC Cherry had not been told of the charge until 13 months after the incident and 11 months after he had been identified as the alleged perpetrator of a serious assault.

Mr Edmund Lawson, QC, for the accused officers, expressed concern yesterday that the DPP was still seeking to reinstate proceedings against the seven policemen and continue with actions against 18 other officers arising from the Wapping demonstration.

Mr Lawson said it was a matter of concern that since the judges' decision blocking proceedings there had been unwarranted publicity, which could prejudice the position of police officers.

## Bases go as RAF phases out missile

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The RAF squadrons of British-built, Bloodhound medium-range, ground-to-air missiles, which have been prominent landmarks on the East Coast for three decades, are to be scrapped by 1995.

The decision by the Air Force Board will involve the closure within the next 12 months of two RAF bases, at Bawdsey, Suffolk, and at North Coates, Lincolnshire.

Plans to join a collaborative programme to replace Bloodhound have also been cancelled and it is proposed to buy a new missile system "off the shelf". The likeliest choice is the American Patriot tactical air defence system, already in service with a number of Nato countries.

The Bloodhound missiles, which have been updated once, have a range of 50 miles. They have been in service with the RAF since 1958 and are part of the Nato and British air defence networks.

There are six bases with a total of 14 Bloodhound "sec-

tions", each believed to have about eight guided missiles. The number of missile sections is to be reduced to six by October, all to be concentrated on two bases, RAF West Raynham, Norfolk, and RAF Wattisham, Suffolk.

The RAF will move out of Bawdsey and North Coates by March 31 next year. The Ministry of Defence has yet to decide the bases' future. RAF personnel at them will be given jobs elsewhere. The other two bases now housing Bloodhound missiles, Wyton, in Cambridgeshire, and Barkston Heath, in Lincolnshire, will stay in RAF hands.

● Maintenance problems with the RAF's ageing Phantom fighters are restricting tours of duty for air crews in the Falklands to just five weeks as ground crews face increasing difficulties in keeping the 20-year-old aircraft flying. RAF sources say that 80 to 100 hours' maintenance are now needed for one hour's flying.

## Navy maintenance record criticized

By Sheila Gunn, Political Reporter

Some of the Royal Navy's 173 ships are unfit for combat for one third of their service lives, the National Audit Office disclosed yesterday. They also spend only five of their working life of over 20 years in service at sea.

The Ministry of Defence faces little hope of cutting down the time the ageing fleet spends in dock or awaiting repair work.

The inquiry by the public spending watchdog into the £900 million spent annually on repairs on £7 billion-worth of surface ships and submarines found that no figures were kept of repair bills for individual vessels. It wants a budget system that sets out the maintenance costs of each ship. It also called for information to be kept on board ship on computer.

The auditors criticized the overlapping responsibilities of four different commands and 14 committees within the fleet

maintenance organizations. Moreover, they could trace contact between only nine of the 14 committees.

Work to prolong the lifetime of ships also prolongs time spent in dry dock, cutting the number of ships available in peacetime. On average, ships are classed as non-operational for 26 per cent of their lives. The percentage is 33 per cent for some vessels, although they could be rushed back into service if need be.

The audit office said that failure to complete work on schedule affects the number of ships available for operations. Of the 55 maintenance projects costing more than £500,000 carried out under the Royal Dockyards' commercial management, 39 were late. But much of the delay was outside the control of the dockyard contractors.

National Audit Office report - Ministry of Defence fleet maintenance (Stationery Office, £6)

## Chinese millionaire gives Oxford £10m

By Sam Kiley, Higher Education Reporter

The Hong Kong millionaire philanthropist, Sir Run Run Shaw, has made the largest individual donation to Oxford University's £200 million fund-raising campaign. He is giving £10 million to fund an institute of Chinese studies there.

The Run Run Shaw Institute of Chinese Studies will concentrate on contemporary China, particularly its changing social structure, and will operate alongside the recently endowed Nissan Centre for Japanese Studies.

Sir Run Run has already put his name to Shaw College, the fourth of the colleges in the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

His gift to Oxford, paid through the charitable trust set up by his family, brings to £103 million the total so far raised in the five-year Campaign for Oxford launched in 1984, just over half the target

figure. Sir Run Run's wealth comes from investments in cinemas, film studios and property interests in Asia, the United States, Canada and Britain. He is president of the Shaw Brothers Organization.

The Bodleian Library at Oxford has received a gift of £1 million from the Pearson Group, owners of the *Financial Times*, Penguin and Longman, to establish a New Media Library. The occupant of the new post will be responsible for adding computerized publications to the library's stocks.

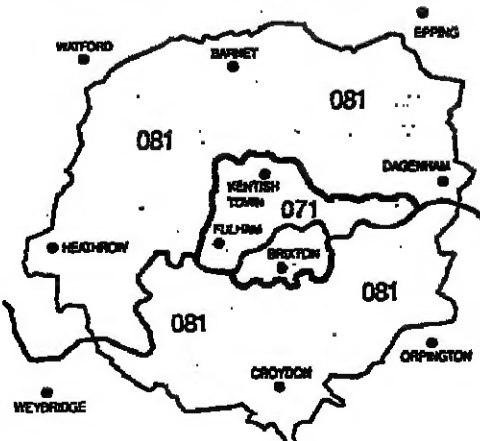
Edinburgh University yesterday announced that it had raised £1 million from its graduates over the past seven years - most of it from women. About 10 per cent of Edinburgh's living alumni have contributed an average of £210, with the greatest response from those who studied in the medical faculty.

# From the Square Mile to the Oval.

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The new system is very simple. If you're calling from outside London, you'll need to dial 071 or 081 first. And if you're calling from one London code area to another, the same applies. To make a call to the same code, you need only dial the seven digit number, as at present.

If you live in London and don't know your new code, or you don't know those of friends and business contacts, check Sunday's newspapers. You'll find a table showing how to convert 01 codes to 071 and 081 codes. Easily and quickly.

Meanwhile, you should be making preparations at work. Phone, fax and computer systems will need

altering. As will your company communications.

If you have any queries about the change or would like copies of our leaflet and business checklist, call us free on our Helpline number, 0800 800 873, 9am to 7pm, seven days a week.

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## Two million households behind in debt repayments as credit soars

By David Sapsted

More than two million households had fallen behind in their debt repayments by the end of last year, according to an independent survey published today.

They included 250,000 home owners who, faced with record interest rates, were in arrears averaging up to £2,000 on mortgage repayments.

The survey, *Credit and Debt in Britain*, compiled by the Policy Studies Institute (PSI), says that the level of personal credit doubled in the 1980s, resulting in increasing problems for a rising number of households.

Severe financial hardships are already evident because of the community charge, the survey says. In Scotland, where it was introduced a year earlier than in England and Wales, 6 per cent of households have difficulties paying the poll tax.

The findings, which ignore Scots who are withholding payment for political reasons, will not be welcomed by the Government, which is facing mounting opposition to the introduction of the poll tax south of the border on April 1. The survey finds that rates are "much less common".

Mr Richard Berthoud, one of the authors of the report, said: "The poll tax has

emerged as a real problem in Scotland. It mainly affects council tenants who previously paid a rates element within their rents. Now, their rents have gone up and, additionally, they face the totally new commitment of paying the poll tax."

Overall, the study finds that 2.4 million households had problems with debt last year, with 560,000 being regarded as in serious financial difficulties, owing money to three or more creditors, and 170,000 with "very serious" arrears with five or more debts. The average indebtedness

for each of the 2.4 million households was £620 out of a total of £2.9 billion.

The survey shows that rent arrears affected particularly the less well off, with 5 per cent of all families representing more than a million households, reporting arrears.

"The rent arrears findings were perfectly consistent with a problem we knew existed throughout the 1980s. It is in line with the overall findings that it is a combination of low income and high commitments that is the main cause of difficulties," Mr Berthoud, head of the PSI's family

finances research group, said. The study of 1,785 households in England, Scotland and Wales shows the average arrears of tenants was about £270. For mortgage payers, the figure was £1,800.

The 250,000 figure for home owners in arrears is far more than the 60,000 cited by building societies. Mr Berthoud said that was because the societies based their statistics on those who were behind in repayments by six months or more. However, the number of home owners facing mortgage arrears is only 3 per cent of the total, while 16 per cent of tenants report problems with paying the rent.

Consumer credit arrangements, including loans, hire purchase, overdrafts and credit cards, are found to be the other area where difficulties exist. The survey identifies almost 1.5 million agreements "in difficulty".

Mr Berthoud said there had been an unprecedented boom in consumer credit in the 1980s. Nearly 75 per cent of Britain's 21 million households use credit, with the number of agreements exceeding 40 million last year. More than four million households are labelled as heavy credit users with four or more different commitments.

The survey says people aged in their 30s are the biggest users of credit. Young people

and poorer families, with a net weekly income below £150 and usually council tenants, are those most at risk.

A full report on the survey, sponsored by the Joseph Rowntree Memorial Trust, financial institutions and public bodies, including the Department of Social Security, will be published later this year with the results of a parallel survey in Northern Ireland.

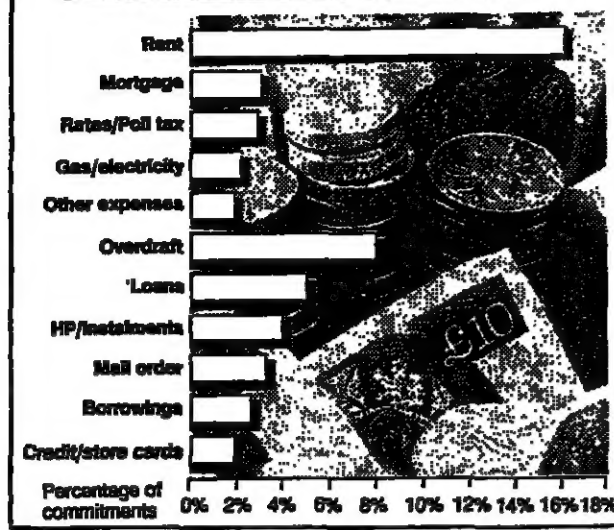
*Credit and Debt in Britain*, by Richard Berthoud and Elaine Kempson (Policy Studies Institute, 100 Park Village East, London NW1 3SR).

● About 750,000 families are seriously in debt, according to the charity group Freedom from Debt, with higher mortgage rates primarily to blame in two thirds of cases (Robin Young writes).

In the West Midlands, repossessions by banks and building societies have risen by 20 per cent in the past few months. In Northampton, more than half of council tenants are in arrears with debts of more than £1.5 million.

In Yorkshire, the bad debt workload in the county courts increased by twice the normal figure last year. In Sheffield, county court actions for debt represented about one in 16 of the adult population. Rent arrears were £10 million. In the West Country, solicitors said mortgage repossession work quadrupled in six months.

### DEBT: WHERE THE BURDEN FALLS



## Splashing out in good cause

JAMES GRAY



Nick Gillingham, the Commonwealth Games swimming medalist, making waves in a water-filled ship near Tower Bridge before handing over £24,000 to the National Asthma Association. It was collected by 2,000 people in a sponsored swimming marathon.

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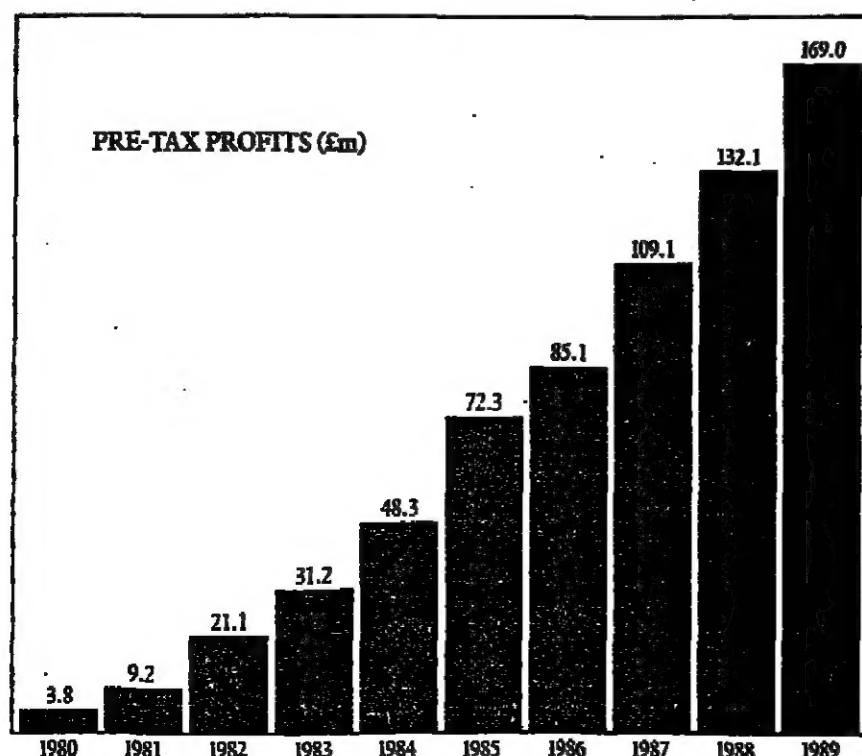
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For further information, please write to: Corporate Affairs Department, Fisons plc, Fison House, Princes Street, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 1QH.



The financial information set out above has been extracted from the preliminary statement of the results of Fisons plc for the year ended 31st December, 1989 issued on 6th March, 1990. The statement regarding the increase in value of a shareholding in Fisons plc is based upon the share price movement over the period stated, as adjusted for a share split, a scrip issue and the bonus element of the rights issues during that period. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of likely future performance. This advertisement is issued by Fisons plc and directors of Fisons plc are the persons responsible for the information contained in this advertisement. The advertisement has been approved by County NatWest Wood Mackenzie & Co. Limited, a member of The Securities Association, for the purposes of Section 57 of the Financial Services Act 1986. County NatWest Wood Mackenzie & Co. Limited, its clients and officers may have a position or engage in transactions in the shares of Fisons plc.

## House prices rise but trend is down

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

House prices rose by 0.3 per cent last month, the first increase since last July, the Halifax Building Society reported yesterday. But, allowing for seasonal factors, the price trend is still downwards.

The Halifax said in its survey that prices normally recover in February after falling in January, but on a seasonally adjusted basis prices continued to fall last month by about 0.3 per cent. Britain's annual rate of house price inflation fell to 1.6 per cent from 3 per cent in January.

New house prices, after rising 1 per cent in January, fell 0.4 per cent in February and remain virtually unchanged compared with a year ago at an average £73,310. Prices paid by first-time buyers are 7.1 per cent higher than a year ago, averaging £50,600 in February.

The average price for all houses is £60,661. The Halifax commented that the recent mortgage rate rise "confirms our view that house prices will remain depressed in 1990, but

a firm recovery in 1991 is still expected."

● People in the South-east are more than three times as likely to inherit property as those in Scotland, and twice as likely as those in Yorkshire and the Midlands, according to the Institute of British Geographers. The inherited property is likely to be twice as expensive in the South-east.

A study by Mike Hamner and Chris Hammett in the institute's journal *Area* says over £7,000 million worth of property is inherited each year. Their study is based on a survey of 3,250 adults in 1988 carried out by NOP Ltd, which showed that 291 households, 9.4 per cent of the sample, had inherited property worth an average of £16,757.

Regions with higher levels of owner-occupation tended to have more inheritors and higher valued property, largely in the South. London was the exception because of its low level of home ownership, but inheritors there received well above the national average.

## Insurance company loses theft appeal

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A businessman who won an important High Court ruling against insurers after the theft of property worth more than £40,000 from a car successfully fought an appeal by the insurance company yesterday.

The defeat in the Court of Appeal for the Prudential Assurance Company means that Mr Mustafa Sofi, aged 68, will be paid the £43,175 he was awarded in the High Court almost a year ago. It included £40,950 for stolen jewellery and £600 for two mink coats.

Prudential claimed it was not liable to compensate Mr Sofi, of Clapham, south-west London, under an all-risks home and health policy and a travel policy after the jewellery and luggage was stolen from his car at Dover Castle.

Mr Sofi, his wife, daughter, son-in-law and another member of the family, visited the

castle, leaving the jewellery locked in the glove compartment, before catching a ferry to France in January 1986.

In the High Court last year, Judge White said the case was one of general importance to policy-holders. The company claimed Mr Sofi breached a condition of both policies requiring him to take all "reasonable steps" to safeguard the insured property.

The standard of care an insurance company could insist upon, the judge ruled, was one of ordinary prudence. To impose too high a standard would be to defeat or make illusory the benefits of an all-risks policy, he said.

Lord Justice Lloyd, sitting with Lords Justices Glidewell and Woolf, rejected the company's claim that it was reckless of Mr Sofi not to have taken the jewellery with him.

## Spy book libel win

Mr Stephen Arthur De Mowbray, a former diplomat, accepted substantial undisclosed damages at the High Court in London yesterday in settlement of his libel action over allegations that he persecuted Sir Roger Hollis, the former head of MI5, in a determination to establish that he was a spy.

The allegations were made in *The Secrets of the Service*, a book by Mr Anthony Glees, published by Jonathan Cape. Mr Glees and Jonathan Cape said that they accepted the suggestions in the book were false and should never have been published. They apologized for the distress and concern caused.

**Meat all-clear** Production at the Plumrose factory in King's Lynn, Norfolk, resumed yesterday after a six-week halt when listeria was discovered at the plant.

**Hygiene fine** The Royal York hotel was fined £38,500 yesterday after Eclipsaire, the owners, pleaded guilty to 34 hygiene offences in an inspection last July. The hotel has since been approved by an inspector.

**Ill wind** Councilors in Cromer, Norfolk, say that an amusement arcade blown off the town's pier in the gales should not be rebuilt because the pier looks better without it.

**Drug sentence** Fusilier Ronald Paterson, aged 20, has been dismissed the service and sentenced to 140 days' detention for possessing cannabis during his time with the 1st Battalion The Royal Highland Fusiliers.

**Fish threat** Natural fish stocks in the Avon are being eaten by rainbow trout swept into it from fish farms by flood waters, the Save Avon Group says.

**Flying visit** A builder who fell through the roof of the mosque at the Pakistan High Commission in London, has been taken to hospital with the praying diplomat on whom he landed.



## CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

# Private property Bill passed after hard Soviet debate

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

The Supreme Soviet (parliament) yesterday passed the long-awaited private property Bill by 350 votes to three with 11 abstentions.

Despite this huge majority, however — the most controversial section was passed with no votes against — the Bill's passage was marred by hectoring, barracking and a host of procedural irregularities, all compounded by the difficulty of achieving a quorum for the final vote.

The first attempt to pass the Bill was made on Monday but was soon abandoned when it became clear that the twin claims of Sunday's elections and tomorrow's International Women's Day holiday had given Supreme Soviet deputies higher priorities than attendance.

Without once mentioning the words "private property", which the drafting committee decided were too controversial in a Soviet Bill, the law will permit ownership of housing and industrial enterprises, the hiring of labour by individuals, and the ownership of shares in companies.

Whether it succeeds in changing the Soviet economy for the better, however, will depend on how it is interpreted by local authorities.

Leasing provisions for agriculture and the introduction of co-operative enterprises and services in cities have generated strong resistance, suggesting that more ambitious legislation will lie on the statute book until popular attitudes change.

The clumsy voting procedure began in earnest yesterday morning with first the title, then the preamble, then each of six sections being voted on.

The preamble, which set out the traditional Soviet attitude to "socialist" property and spoke of the need to prevent "alienation of the worker from the means of production", failed to secure the two-thirds majority it required.

All other sections and the Bill as a whole were passed easily, with some of the traditionalist phrases removed.

Sofia (Reuters) — The Bulgarian Parliament approved a law yesterday legalizing strikes for the first time in national history. It lays down rules for strikes and arbitration, but forbids stoppages in the armed forces, police, postal services, power industry and medical services. A new property law was also passed.

from the preamble being reinstated elsewhere.

The passage of each section was a mere detail, however. Afterwards, in the often looking-glass world of the Supreme Soviet, there was discussion and voting on amendments within the section just agreed.

Mr Fyodor Burlatsky, an advocate of more democracy in the Soviet Union since before that cause became popular, argued for the inclusion of references to intellectual property. This had come up at every reading of the Bill and in committee. Again, he was assured this would be the subject of another law, again he was defeated in a vote.

An angry exchange was precipitated by the question of whether charitable funds should be considered "social organizations" or something different. This was not a question of who or what should be permitted to own property, but a semantic question which revolved around the inclusion or not of the word "including" after the words "social organizations".

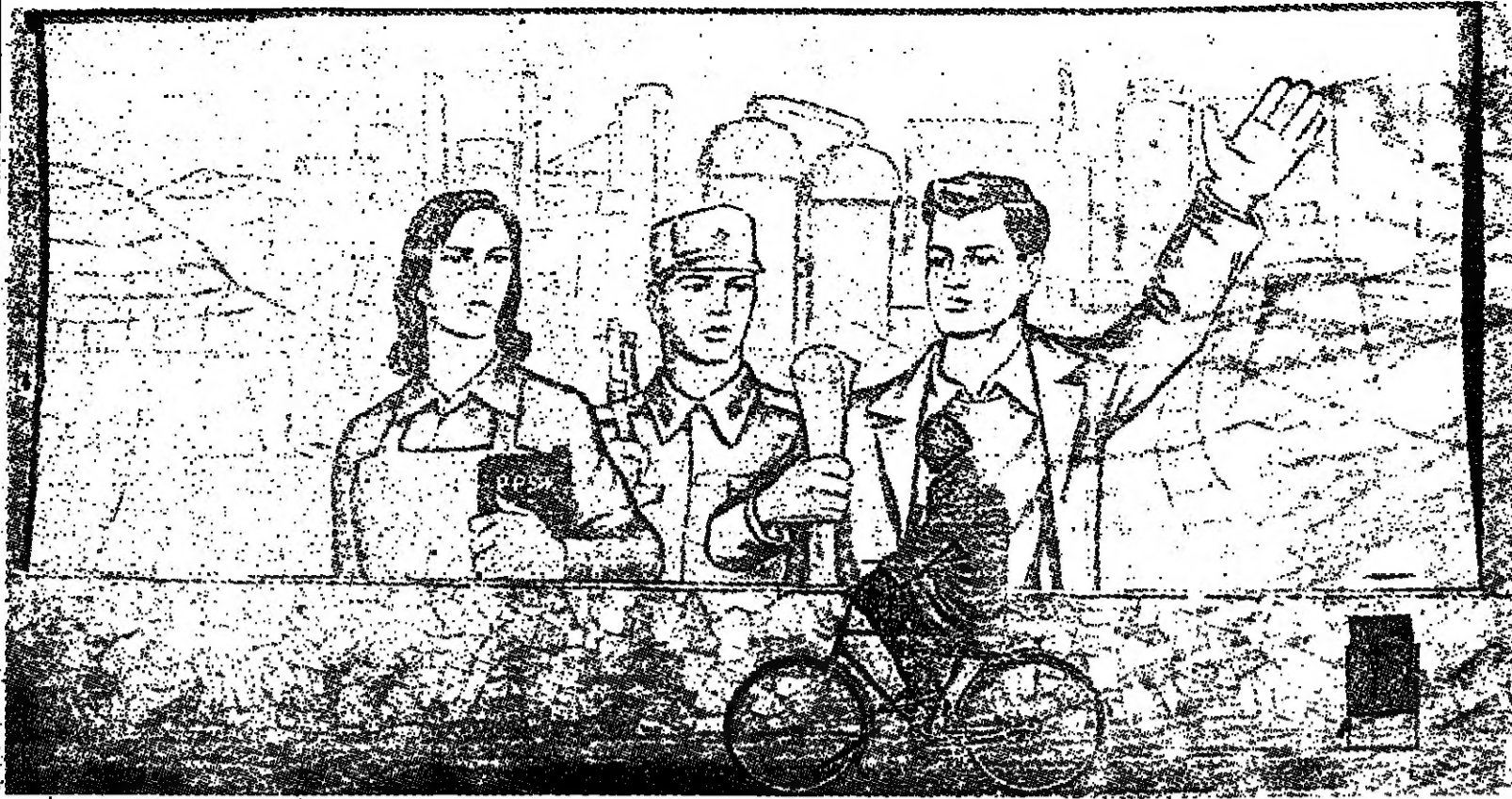
A definition was sought of "earned income" — or rather, "income deriving from labour" — which led one deputy to shout that interest on savings-bank accounts could not be considered earned income — *ergo* all savings banks should be shut. Even Marx, it was agreed, had had some difficulty in defining earned income.

Marxism raised its head again when a group of deputies decided to press for a clause outlawing "the exploitation of man by man", leading another group to insist that, if it were to be included, it would have to be defined.

Mr Anatoli Lukyanov, the Vice-President who chaired the bad-tempered session, tried to keep order by a combination of firm discipline and occasional indulgence. Exasperated at one point, he said that he, like the Supreme Soviet, was still "learning democracy".

The general mayhem and poor attendance at the Supreme Soviet led *Izvestia* yesterday to criticize the calibre of deputies and their sense of responsibility. The newspaper has promised to publish a list of those who were absent on Monday — with their reasons, where known.

## Grim truth behind the Albanian façade



Rhetoric and reality: While wall paintings and posters, like this, above, in the town of Korca, praise the achievements of communism throughout Albania, the women, below, huddling together on a street corner in the town of Shkoder, quickly try to hide home-grown vegetables, which they are trying to sell on the illegal black market, for fear of punishment.



## Hopes of non-communists in Romania ride on free press

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor

An attempt will be made this week to break the domination of the Romanian media by the National Salvation Front, which succeeded the Ceausescu regime and includes many former Communists.

Transporters carrying the first printing press shipped into Romania from the West since the December revolution are being prepared by a British company. The hopes of non-communists Romanians of preventing a landslide victory for the Front in the general election on May 20 will ride with them.

Mr Ion Ratiu, president of the London-based World Union of Free Romanians, which is organizing the shipment, said yesterday that unless mass circulation opposition newspapers appeared on the streets before the election, most voters would assume that there was no alternative to the Front.

"No one in Romania wants communism any more," he said. But he added that, despite this, the Front looked like winning a big majority.

The fact that most of Ceausescu's officials had retained their jobs throughout the country showed the true colours of the Front. But most diplomats felt it was the only organization capable of running the country. It is this assumption that Mr Ratiu hopes to challenge.

In talks yesterday with Mrs Thatcher at Downing Street, he apparently secured British endorsement for the project. He said that Britain had agreed to pay for the transportation of 1,000 tonnes of newsprint, which is scarce in Romania. The World Union's newspaper, *Romanul Liber*, is to be published daily in Bucharest by April, instead of monthly at present.

After half a century in exile in Britain, where he mounted an anti-Ceausescu campaign, Mr Ratiu returned in January to fight the elections.

But he was dismayed by the reluctance of the National Front to give up powers enjoyed by its predecessor.

He said Mr Ion Iliescu, the interim President, initially refused to allow him to set up a printing plant on the ground that printing was a state monopoly. But in a further meeting last week he appeared to change his mind.

"I won't know whether we shall succeed until the press arrives at the border," he said.

Under Romanian law it is illegal for a political party to receive help from another party outside the country.

Mr Ratiu has sidestepped this legislation by declaring that the World Union is a pro-democracy organization.

But his position is further complicated because he is also a leader of the National Peasant Party and is standing as its candidate.

## WORLD ROUNDUP

## Custody battle mother arrives

Wellington — Dr Elizabeth Morgan, the American mother at the centre of the world's most publicized custody battle, arrived in New Zealand yesterday to continue the fight for custody of her daughter Hilary, aged seven (Richard Long writes). But although they have been apart for more than two years, while Dr Morgan spent 25 months in prison for refusing to reveal Hilary's whereabouts, there was no immediate meeting.

Dr Morgan remained in Auckland, in the North Island, talking with her lawyers and the counsel appointed by the New Zealand Family Court to look after Hilary's interests, while the girl stayed with her maternal grandparents in Christchurch, in the South Island. Hilary's father, Dr Eric Foretich, accused by Dr Morgan of sexually abusing their daughter, arrived in Auckland last week, saying he was "sick of being portrayed as a latter-day Jack the Ripper".

## Colony to lobby MPs

Hong Kong (AFP) — Hong Kong will fly British MPs out to lobby their support for a plan to provide UK passports to some 225,000 Hong Kong residents, Sir David Wilson, the Governor, said yesterday. Forty MPs will be invited at a cost of HK\$3.2 million (£230,000), to be paid by the Hong Kong Government, according to a government source. Sir David said: "If we can help in this process by explaining to Members of Parliament why this Bill is needed to keep people in Hong Kong, and that is the key to the whole thing, then we should certainly do so." Sir David is to leave today for what he called a routine four-day visit to London. He said that his talks would include the question of the Vietnamese boat people.

## US army cocaine ring

New York — Investigators believe that a grenade attack which killed a US serviceman in a Panama City night club is linked with cocaine trafficking by American military personnel, according to television reports (Charles Bremner writes). Army investigators have uncovered an extensive ring among the 13,000 US troops flown back to the United States during the past month, CBS News said. The soldiers were said to have been recruited by Panamanian and Colombian traffickers eager to exploit an efficient new conduit for evading US Customs inspection.

## Peru rights protest

Lima — A coalition of human rights groups has denounced "an unprecedented series of aggressions" against human rights workers and organizations in Peru (Corinne Schmidt writes). The accusations have provoked an angry reaction from the Peruvian Government. In a statement, published in two Lima newspapers, the human rights group denounced the February 18 bombings of the offices of the Andean Commission of Jurists and the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the bombing last Sunday of the office of the Amnesty International local chapter.

## Ring of despondency

Rome — Italy has some of the worst public services in Europe, according to the Italian Confederation of Industry (Confindustria). Its survey found that only 33 out of 100 telephone calls are successful, that a letter takes an average of five days to get from one Italian city to another, that 36 per cent of Italian railway locomotives are more than 40 years old, and that the water supply system leaks 40 per cent of the water between the source and the user. The gap between Italy and the other leading European countries is increasing, according to the survey, rather than closing.

## Ripples of Eastern reform in Africa

## Street dancing as Marxist era nears end in Ethiopia

From Christopher Walker, Cairo, and Marti Colley, Nairobi

Ethiopian students sang and danced in the streets of Addis Ababa yesterday to demonstrate their support for President Mengistu to shore up his crumbling political empire.

"Mengistu is interested in power and maintaining it," an East African diplomat said. "When he seized power in 1977, communism seemed the ideal way to run the system — it was the currency in which Ethiopian politics was paid. Now Mengistu realises that the benefits of sticking to communism are outweighed by its disadvantages."

The wide-ranging reforms outlined on Monday are the most striking results to date of the winds of change from Eastern Europe now threatening to disturb the status quo in more than a score of Arab and African nations.

Despite this rare display of public approval, observers dismissed the proposals to introduce a mixed economy and to allow opposition groups a voice in the New



President Mengistu: Move towards liberalization.

Countries which previously supported President Mengistu's communist regime are now more concerned with solving their own domestic problems than with propping up an underdeveloped nation beset with famine, economic bankruptcy and civil war.

Ethiopia's uncertain progress towards liberalization came just as unrest against ruling governments has become widespread across the continent, notably against the administration of President Houphouët-Boigny in Ivory Coast. Many conser-

vative Arab regimes were striving to accommodate growing demands for a regional version of perestroika and glasnost.

"Even in the Third World, inter-dependence is now so great that it can only be a matter of time before others follow suit," explained a former Arab ambassador to Moscow. "What people have learnt from Eastern Europe in recent months is that the unpleasant circumstances they have had to live with for years can now be altered."

Yesterday in the Saudi capital Riyadh, three ministers from the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council gathered specifically to consider the effects on member nations of the political revolution that has swept Eastern Europe.

The three ministers from Kuwait, Bahrain and Oman were appointed at the GCC's last summit to review what is widely seen as a major threat to stability in a region still struggling to overcome the traumatic effects of the eight-year Iran-Iraq war.

In recent months, Kuwait's ruling family has faced seven stormy rallies organised by the country's newly formed democracy movement. Sheikh Saad al-Abdullah al-

Sabbah, Kuwait's Crown Prince, told activists at a heated meeting last Saturday that the government was now anxious to see the election of a new representative assembly.

His enthusiasm has not been matched by other Gulf leaders, a number of whom have argued that their nations have a traditional right of access to the ruler to demand satisfaction.

Bahrain's Prime Minister, Sheikh Khalifa bin Sulman al-Khalifa announced last month

## Minutes of hope

Chicago (AP) — The Domsday Clock on the cover of the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* was put back yesterday to reflect reduced superpower tensions. For two years the clock has stood at six minutes to midnight. Now it gives the world another "four minutes" before the nuclear holocaust, having been moved back to 10 minutes to midnight.

that it was premature for Gulf Arab States to copy Western-style democracy. Bahrain displayed its own assembly in 1976.

"Stability and fair distribution of wealth are what our people wanted and this is

taking place," he stated in a newspaper interview later criticized by some Arab diplomats for displaying unjustified complacency.

The extent of the troubles facing a part of the globe where monarchs, emirs, presidents or single ruling parties have long held overwhelming power was graphically demonstrated in December when news of the overthrow of Ceausescu coincided with a Euro-Arab meeting in Paris.

As the Arabic newspaper, *Al Hayat*, commented acidly, the public jubilation by the 12 European foreign ministers present on hearing of the tyrant's overthrow was met with a "despondent silence" from the Arab delegates.

Without naming names, the paper went on to refer scathingly to the "Arab Ceausescus" who had "outdone their mentor in their ability to dress up their dictatorial rule in patriotic slogans; to strangle their people's spirit and character and glorify their submission and silence; to perpetrate massacres and make sure that the lesson is not lost on anyone who dares to resist the process of mass brainwashing; to purge figures who look like rising to prominence, by accident or design".

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## CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

## Old fears resurface on the Oder-Neisse line

From Roger Boyes, Opole, Poland

Who's afraid of the Germans? Not Jan Kaczmarek.

Almost every weekend he travels to Berlin and, near the Zoo station, buys from the East Germans who crowd through the wall and sell to the West Germans scouting for bargains.

Not Ela Wisniewska. She crosses the border on Thursdays, selling eggs and chickens for Ostmarks that could soon become Deutschmarks.

And yet, as you wind down the Oder and the Neisse, the line that separates Germans from Slavs, you can feel the throb of anxiety.

A unified Germany would be a magnet to the German minority not only along the Oder but also in the Soviet Union and Romania. As long as there is a lobby of Silesian and Pomeranian émigrés in West Germany, as long as there is ambiguity about the Polish-German frontier, unification is a menace.

"Nobody thinks that the Germans have another Hitler in them," says a burly Roman Catholic priest in a parish near the frontier. "But there are historical patterns."

"In the 1930s Germany tried to put itself together again, like now, and somehow the existence of minorities outside German borders became intolerable. Remember the Sudeten Germans?"

Silesia has mixed blood. Follow the Oder, then cut into the industrial hinterland far away from the border and there, at the end of a rubbish-strewn canal, is Gliwice, formerly Gliwicz.

It is Polish, of course, but also, in some subtle way, German. Perhaps it is the fading advertisement for Schulze-Patzenhofer beer, or the heaps of coal in the street, the drayhorses, the

Tante Emma Laden (corner shops), the chatter of trams: Germany, but in the sepia tones of a 1930 calendar.

The dramatic overture to the German invasion began here in Gliwice: a group of Nazi concentration camp prisoners, dressed in Polish uniforms, were shot as "evidence" of a Polish attack on a German radio station in August, 1939. Hitler denounced the "Polish bandits" and the military machine cranked up.

Now Polish names camouflage the Germanisms; in the park, the pre-war monument to the Katze Lancers has been torn down and in its stead is the usual masonry to the victims of the Second World War.

Poland almost certainly began on the banks of the Oder. In the 11th century, the chronicler Adam of Bremen described the Poles as inhabitants of the lands east of the Oder: "qui trans Oddram sunt Polones".

The borders moved, the ethnic identity of the region was jumbled, but the last great shift of frontiers at Potsdam and Yalta put the dividing line between Germans and Poles back on the banks of the Oder.

About 3.4 million Germans were chased out of Silesia and other border areas between the bitter winter of 1944 and 1948. Later the Russians and Poles operated erratic verification procedures, expelling Germans but also Silesians, hybrid Poles, who had been forced into German service.

Mr Hubert Materna, a Silesian German activist, remembers it all. "After the war if you were a Silesian German you had a choice. Either you changed your name to make it sound Polish or you were given 24 hours to pack your bag and move west. Or you got



A lone protester with a "Hands off Poland" message outside the Bonn chancellery yesterday.

no notice at all and you went east, to Siberia."

As the Germans left, so the Poles expelled from eastern Poland moved into their homes.

Under the West German

Constitution, those who lived in Silesia in 1937 and their offspring are entitled to West German citizenship. The Polish authorities reckon that at most 15,000 people remain with genuine ethnic German

identities. But there are some 300,000 who claim to fall under the Bonn definition of Germanness.

The minority is growing restive — at least partly the work of Bonn. Silesian Ger-

mans are slowly getting what they want. Their association will soon be registered, priests are increasingly offering German-language services.

West German credits, always dependent on the treatment of the German minority, are beginning to flow.

However, as life gets easier for the Germans, so the sense of grievance grows and Bonn's involvement looks less altruistic.

Bonn is a big player. German money, in terms of industrial investment, can make or break a community.

Opole is where the arguments are most raw, the suspicions darkest. Here, in an industrial wasteland twice as filthy as the Ruhr, the community is still smarting from a by-election that put words to the fears. "Germans go back to Germany" declares one of the mildest graffiti. Swastikas are scrawled everywhere.

Dr Dorota Simonides, aged 61, an anthropologist running on the Solidarity ticket, beat a Silesian German, Mr Henryk Krol, aged 42. The vote split 68 to 32 per cent in Solidarity's favour and the Oder which flows through the region was the dividing line.

On the left bank those Poles resettled from eastern territories voted for Dr Simonides. The right bank backed the Germans.

Opole is almost four hours' drive from the frontier and yet it is abrim with pro- and anti-German sentiment.

Dr Simonides says the vote was "essentially against communism". It was the communists who wanted a homogeneous Poland, who fined Silesians for speaking German, whose police searched houses for German memorabilia or books, who jailed Silesians for putting flowers on Wehrmacht graves.

Another German organizer,

an academic at an engineering institute, said: "We don't care about changing the borders. We just want to live here, to speak our language, to pray in German, to import books, and to receive our pension in Deutschmarks."

But nothing is so simple in Silesia. Mr Krol says he wants to give Silesian Germans a reason for not emigrating. The Bonn Government, in the face of the East German exodus, is all behind him. If it makes people stay at home, Bonn is more than ready to plough money into cultural institutes.

Yet the groundswell of the minority rights movement is not really concerned with building German theatres — it wants to get out of an increasingly poor and polluted part of Europe before it is too late. How many of the 250,000-plus signatories of the circulating pro-German petition are of German origin nobody knows.

Most Silesian Poles are furious about this — it smacks of desertion. And the emigrant lobby in West Germany, one of the pressure groups on the Christian Democratic Party of Herr Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, is dangerously ambiguous about the minority. Yes, they want the Silesian Germans to realize their German identity, have their own newspaper, but they also want their houses back.

"The other day," a wrinkled woman tells me in Gliwice, "a West German lady drove up in a nice blue car. 'Guten Tag,' she says, 'thank you for looking after my house so well. Here is 50 Deutschmarks, don't let the garden rot. Soon we're all coming home, you know!'"

"But," replied the woman, "this is my house."

Who's afraid of the Germans? That woman is afraid.

Leading article, page 15

## UK call for new entente cordiale

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

As events in Germany and Eastern Europe continue to dominate foreign policy considerations in the West, Sir Ewen Fergusson, the British Ambassador to Paris, has delivered a strong plea for closer co-operation between Britain and France in areas of vital mutual concern.

"It is self-evident that in this exciting, but potentially dangerous world, our interests coincide as never before," he told the French Chamber of Commerce at a lunch in London yesterday.

It would be immensely beneficial to the stability of the European Community if the two nations "can count on each other's support". Even the prospect of US withdrawal would be less alarming were Britain and France to provide the joint leadership of a European defence effort.

"With their nuclear capabilities, their traditionally high levels of defence expenditure... they are uniquely well placed to do so." As permanent members of the UN Security Council, Sir Ewen observed, Britain and France were directly involved in efforts to solve the world's regional problems in a way not shared by their European partners.

Given that trade and investment also linked Britain and France more closely than ever before, Sir Ewen wondered why the "inexorable logic" had not drawn the two countries as closely together as France now is with West Germany?

## Modrow talks indicate firmer Moscow stance

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

The East German Prime Minister, Herr Hans Modrow, making his second visit to Moscow in a month, yesterday finalized his Government's terms for German unity during talks with Soviet leaders.

Afterwards, the official East German account of the talks — which was not contradicted by the Soviet side — indicated that Moscow could be hardening its position in advance of the first four-power negotiations on the reunification of Germany.

According to the East German spokesman, Herr Wolfgang Meyer, the East German and Soviet sides agreed that the transition to unity should be a gradual process synchronized with progress towards European unity. There was to be no question of annexation, he said, using the emotive German word *Anschluss*.

Herr Modrow and his delegation yesterday met President Gorbachev, the Prime Minister, Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, and other senior Soviet leaders for several hours of talks that were described as "frank, constructive and friendly".

Herr Meyer said the two sides had also agreed that it would be "unacceptable" for a united Germany to be a member of Nato because this would upset the balance of power in Europe. He quoted one member of the East German delegation as saying that this would be interpreted

as "the continuation of the Cold War". New European security structures had to be worked out that would eventually lead to a demilitarized Germany.

Mr Gorbachev has never explicitly ruled out Nato membership for a united Germany, insisting instead on the need to maintain the current strategic balance in Europe. Asked directly in an interview

## Organ sales

Bonn — East Germany has been raising hard currency by selling the vital organs of accident victims for transplant surgery in the West, according to *Bild* yesterday (Ian Murray writes). The newspaper quoted the going price for a heart as DM 60,000 (£21,500). The sister of a Dresden road-accident victim is reported as saying that she found out what was going on only after her brother's heart had been flown by helicopter to West Berlin.

with East and West German television whether he would countenance a united Germany in Nato, he parried the question, asking how the West would feel if Moscow insisted on a united Germany being a member of the Warsaw Pact, and returned to the concept of strategic parity.

The East German spokesman also said that both sides had agreed on the necessity of respecting the existing East

German border with Poland and insisted that Poland should be represented in any discussions which affected its interests and security.

Herr Meyer denied that there was any attempt by either East Berlin or Moscow to retard the unification process, saying that it was a question of responsibility — to Germans, to Europe and to the international community — and that both Moscow and East Berlin wanted the two-plus-four talks to begin as soon as possible.

This was probably the East German Prime Minister's valedictory visit to the Soviet Union, and the ability of the East German side to implement any undertakings must be in question.

Elections in East Germany on March 18 are expected to result in defeat for the communist-led coalition and the acceleration of the pace of reunification. A week ago, senior members of the country's Social Democratic Party — the favourites to win the election — were given a red-carpet reception in Moscow.

Herr Meyer's opening statement at his press conference had more than a hint of a farewell, emphasizing the kindly feelings of the East German leadership towards the Soviet Union, expressing the hope that co-operation would continue, and pledging to do everything possible to ensure that existing agreements were honoured.

## Dark secrets of Buchenwald kept by 'Russians on the hill'

From Anne McElroy, Buchenwald

The winding road to Buchenwald is pretty lined with frosted trees, and, in the late afternoon sun, deer can be glimpsed darting through the woods. Below, in the valley, lies the rural town of Weimar.

But approaching the site of one of the most notorious Nazi concentration camps darkens the mood of any traveller. The stony cold of exposed slopes brings to mind the words of a former prisoner: "Whatever the weather, it was always cold in Buchenwald."

The camp in which 56,000 victims of Nazism met their death is now beginning to disgorge more terrible secrets as postwar history in East Germany emerges from the

shrouds of 40 years of ideological convenience.

The Government recently admitted what older people in the area have known all these years — that for five years after the war ended, the Nazi camp was used by the Soviet Union to incarcerate not only prominent Nazis, but also guiltless Germans considered by the communists to be politically undesirable.

Many of those imprisoned by Hitler found themselves released in 1945 only to be returned there by the new regime months later.

Local historians estimate that up to 13,000 people died in the camp in five years of hunger, disease and cold.

In Weimar, the home of Goethe and Schiller, middle-aged citizens recall being admonished as children with the threat of being sent to the "Russians on the hill" if they did not behave.

But until recently, visitors to the camp were told only of the liberation by Soviet troops, with the implication, if not the actual lie, that the camp was cleared in 1945.

Herr Heinz Koch, the deputy director of the museum, denies that he and his fellow

custodians lied about the activities there before the closure of the camp in 1950, "although I would accept we were not open about this period".

The new openness has enabled him to talk, for the first time, about his own research, pursued covertly for many years. "It was a time of revenge and suspicion," he said. "Many people were delivered here by enemies with a personal or political axe to grind."

He said that accusations were rarely checked by the Soviet authorities and few trials were held. "The German communists had the ultimate say in who was to be imprisoned and many people died here of sheer isolation and despair."

The truth about the motives and victims of the period still remains largely closed to historical research, with the relevant archives returned to the Soviet Union in 1950 and not yet open to scrutiny.

The warden of Buchenwald last week asked the East German Government to set up, with the Soviet Union, a joint historical commission to research the period.

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# Pretoria's defence chief urged to quit over death squad

From Gavin Bell, Johannesburg

General Magnus Malan, the South African Minister of Defence, is under mounting pressure to resign following disclosures that a clandestine army unit plotted to kill Mr Dullah Omar, a lawyer and close personal friend of Mr Nelson Mandela.

A judicial commission of inquiry has heard that the scheme to switch pills - which Mr Omar took for a heart complaint - for others which would induce a heart attack was among about 200 "dirty tricks" devised by the Civil Co-operation Bureau, an undercover branch of the military special forces which operated against perceived enemies of the state at home and abroad.

Lieutenant-General Rudolph Badenhorst, the chief of military intelligence, said in an affidavit that the plan to murder the Cape Town advocate had been admitted to him during an internal investigation of the bureau's activities in January.

He said the unit was also responsible for a limpet-mine explosion which injured two people at a Coloured youth centre near Cape Town, and a bomb attack on a store owned by an anti-apartheid activist in Pretoria.

Mr Omar said yesterday the disclosure proved that apartheid had created a society devoid of moral values.

"Plans to eliminate me tell us that the sooner we bury this oppressive society, the better it will be for all South Africans."

Major-General Edward Webb, the special forces commander and chairman of the bureau, told the commission that projects which had political implications required ministerial approval.

It is understood that the unit has been operating for several years, but General Malan said this week he had been unaware of its existence until last November.

Johannesburg (AFP) - Two men were sentenced to death yesterday for a fatal insurance fraud. Dean Plank, aged 22, and Gert Swart, aged 34, had a tramp into a car and set it alight. Swart claimed insurance of £170,000 on Plank.

In a statement, he said it was brought to his attention by a police investigation. He had ordered an internal inquiry into the "alleged irregularities", and informed President de Klerk of the unit's existence in January.

General Badenhorst has testified that General Webb reported directly to General J. J. Geldenhuys, the South African Defence Force chief.

With high-ranking officers becoming ensnared in the "death squad" scandal, the

minister's position appears increasingly vulnerable.

Newspapers have been questioning how expenditure on the Civil Co-operation Bureau, said to have amounted to almost 30 million rands (£7 million), could have been accounted for if General Malan did not know it existed.

General Jan Kloppe, the Chief of Army Staff, said yesterday that the bureau had been created to act against organizations such as the African National Congress and the South African Communist Party abroad, and had no authority to commit offensive acts within the country.

General Webb said information on operations abroad could not be provided for reasons of state security and to protect those involved.

But he has disclosed that the bureau had 139 agents who planned and executed operations throughout the world and a large number of "unconscious" agents.

He was unable to provide documents on the unit's "internal" activities, as the only persons with access to them were Colonel Joe Verser, the bureau's commander, and Major Staal Burger, a regional director. Colonel Verser was arrested in connection with criminal investigations last Friday, and Major Burger is in hiding.

# Mandela hints at political safeguards for wary whites

From Jan Raath, Harare

An African National Congress government would be prepared to give constitutional guarantees to whites in South Africa to appease their fears that they would be overwhelmed by the country's black majority, Mr Nelson Mandela, the organization's newly appointed deputy president, hinted strongly here yesterday.

"We know that the whites would like some structural guarantees which will protect them against their fear of being dominated by blacks when a broad, non-racial government is formed," he told a press conference at the end of his three-day visit to Zimbabwe, his first official mission since assuming his new post last week.

"We are prepared to address that question, but the exact nature of that guarantee is something we cannot discuss here," he said. "It is still under discussion and I can only hope that, in due course, we will be able to come out with a formula which will satisfy not only the oppressed people but the whites as well."

His remarks were seen as the most definitive yet on the issue of white guarantees. Observers believe that, with the backing of the rest of the ANC's leadership, Mr Man-

la appears to regard the constitutional protection of whites as a *fait accompli*, with only the form this will take to be decided before the ANC begins negotiations with Pretoria on South Africa's future.

He said the question of reconciliation with South Africa's five million whites "cannot be overstressed, because we have a substantial white population in our country, and it is our intention that, sooner or later, the mistakes, the injustices and the casualties of the past must be forgotten so that we can get all the population groups of the country concentrated on the task of building their country."

During his visit here, Mr Mandela adopted a conciliatory position on the question of South Africa's whites, going so far as to give assurances that they would be permitted to run their own schools outside a government system, and to "maintain their own cultural background."

He has also been at pains to praise the policy of reconciliation adopted by President Mugabe's Government in Zimbabwe. "The fact that the Government and people of Zimbabwe are now implementing the policy of reconciliation is an experience

from which we want to profit," Mr Mandela said yesterday.

The white question is expected to place considerable strain on the ANC's leadership, the more radical of whose members will fiercely resist what they regard as "giving away too much."

The Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), the smaller but more militant of South Africa's two liberation organizations, appears to be capitalizing on Mr Mandela's flexibility. In Harare on Monday Mr Zephaniah Mothopeng, the group's president, told a press conference: "We are not appeasers. Those who want privileges because of their skins can go."

Although leaders of both the ANC and the PAC were in Harare over the past three days, no attempt was made to heal the breach between the two which opened in 1961.

Mr Mandela left for Tanzania later yesterday, where he is to meet cadres of Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), the ANC's military wing, in their training camps there. Later he will fly to Stockholm to confer with Mr Oliver Tambo, the ANC president, who is undergoing treatment in Sweden after suffering a stroke last year.

# Court frees Enrile on bail



Mr Jean Ponce Enrile, a Philippines opposition MP, with his wife Cristina, waving to supporters yesterday as he left a Supreme Court hearing in Manila, where he was freed on bail of £2,500. His release was a setback for the Government of President Aquino. He was arrested for "rebellion with murder", an offence punishable by life imprisonment, after alleged involvement in a coup attempt last December (Vivyan Thomas writes). The court has yet to decide, however, on the legal issues

raised by the case. Mr Tomas Gomez, a presidential spokesman, said: "The Supreme Court did not decide on the merits of the offence. This doesn't diminish the quality of evidence in the hands of the Government." Mr Enrile, arrested on February 27, has contested the legality of the charges. Meanwhile, there were unconfirmed reports that the fugitive, Mr Rodolfo Aguinaldo, a former governor of Cagayan province who is also wanted for rebellion and murder, had hinted at surrender.

After a marathon five-hour meeting, which ended in the early hours of yesterday, senior Likud officials said: "There can be no question but that Jerusalem is the sovereign and united capital of Israel. Therefore Arab residents of East Jerusalem will not participate in the process relating to Israel's peace initiative, either by voting or by being elected."

# Middle East peace efforts Israel coalition facing collapse

From Richard Owen, Jerusalem

The fate of Israel's strife-torn coalition hangs in the balance today after Labour's decision to force a vote in the inner Cabinet today on controversial Middle East peace talks.

If Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, and his right-wing Likud party - which set tough, new conditions for the talks late on Monday night - refuse to give a "positive response", Labour sources said, the coalition faces collapse.

The inner Cabinet consists of six Labour ministers and six Likud ministers. Labour has threatened to form a "narrow coalition" with the religious parties, on a "peace platform", to achieve a settlement with the Palestinians if Likud refuses to accept terms for Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo laid down by Mr James Baker, the US Secretary of State.

Mr Baker has asked the Israeli Government to say whether it would accept Palestinians deported from the occupied territories and Arabs from East Jerusalem in

a Palestinian negotiating team. The issue has aroused a revolt on the right wing of Likud, because of fears that the inclusion of East Jerusalem Arabs will reopen the question of the status of Jerusalem and lead to the division of the Holy City, with East Jerusalem as the capital of a Palestinian state dominated by the Palestinians.

Jerusalem (AP) - The leading organization of Israeli newspaper editors is protesting against censorship imposed by the Government on the figures for Soviet Jewish immigration. Hannah Zennet, editor of the pro-Labour daily *Haaretz*, said there would be a joint representation to Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister.

Both the US and Labour have said that the subject of the Cairo talks would be Mr Shamir's own plan for elections in the occupied territories, leading to Palestinian self-rule, and not the wider question of the future status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

However, Mr Shamir himself pointed out that this did not affect Mr Baker's demand for an answer over whether East Jerusalem Arabs could take part in the Palestinian negotiating team, as opposed to subsequent elections.

The Likud statement, described by some as a "conditional acceptance" but seen by Mr Shimon Peres, the Labour leader, as tantamount to a rejection, also called on Labour to agree that the Israeli delegation should withdraw from the Cairo talks immediately if there was "any attempt by the PLO to penetrate and dominate the process in any way".

But Labour not only accepts the inclusion of East Jerusalem Palestinians in both talks and elections, it also assumes that the PLO will necessarily be involved, at least indirectly through consultations with Egypt.

# Staff dismay at Unesco on \$5m jobs expansion

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

Staff at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization here were shocked and outraged yesterday after Senor Federico Mayor, its Director General, announced the creation of more jobs at an estimated \$5 million (£2.9 million) instead of trimming extravagant spending.

His much-heralded restructuring programme was embarrassingly published on the eve of yesterday's public hearing of the House of Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs on the possibility of Britain rejoining Unesco.

Instead of the promised radical solutions to over-staffing and mismanagement, with hints of cutting 700 jobs, Senor Mayor announced the creation of 24 new posts at the level of assistant director general level and across-the-board promotions for senior staff.

His unilateral action created the feeling that he had shot himself in the foot after two years of trying to convince his detractors that Unesco had changed under his leadership.

Delegations of several Western member countries felt that the moves made it all the more difficult for Britain and the United States to rejoin.

Britain, the US and Singapore walked out in the mid-1980s over allegations of serious mismanagement under Senor Mayor's controversial predecessor, Mr Amadou Mahtar Mbow from Senegal.

It was hoped when Senor Mayor was elected in 1987 that he would make weeding out officials who had been appointed during the Mbow era a priority.

Instead, several have now been promoted. The most controversial of the new set of appointments is that of Mr H. Yushkevich as deputy director general responsible for commun-

ications and information. He was previously deputy director of the Soviet State Commission for Radio and Television. His appointment, it is being understood, is Senor Mayor's own decision.

The job of director for relations with Europe, traditionally held by a Western or neutral European, goes to Mr Boris Khuchikov from the Soviet Union.

It is understood that Senor Mayor took these decisions without consulting the Unesco executive board, as he is bound to do under its rules.

Japan, which makes the biggest contribution to Unesco with 16 per cent of the budget, was known yesterday to be considering withholding contributions until the changes are frozen, pending an extraordinary executive board meeting.

Senor Mayor appeared before the foreign affairs committee last week.

He explained, as he did yesterday on BBC Radio 4, that the conditions under which Britain had walked out no longer existed.

The financial situation had been straightened out and Unesco needed British and US intellectual input.

Instead it has been assessed inside Unesco that an assistant director general costs around \$180,000.

A post of departmental director, of which 12 have been created, costs around \$150,000.

One estimate shows that Senor Mayor's structural adjustments could cost the organization around \$5 million over the next two years, a sum which is not budgeted for.

Only a tiny part of Senor Mayor's 70-page document deals with job cuts - and it is understood that it is mainly the painters and carpenters who will suffer.

Leading article, page 15

# Ciskei emergency imposed after 27 die in coup violence

Cape Town (AFP) - A state of emergency was declared yesterday in Ciskei, the nominally independent South African homeland, following a weekend coup and public violence which medical sources say has left at least 27 dead and 500 hurt.

The new military council of Brigadier Gqozo decided to impose the emergency amid continuing sporadic looting and arson, Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, said here during a snap parliamentary debate on the initially bloodless coup.

South African troops and police, sent into Ciskei at the request of Brigadier Gqozo on Monday, would be reinforced

by an armoured-car squadron, Mr Botha said, in the wake of reports of widespread damage. Brigadier Gqozo, aged 36, speaking in the capital, Bisho, called for an end to criminal activity and his appeal was echoed by civic associations in Ciskei's worst-hit areas.

Mr Nelson Mandela, deputy president of the ANC, added his appeal for calm in a message from Harare.

The presence of soldiers and drenching rains yesterday curtailed violent outbreaks but small groups of youths continued to attack isolated homes and trading posts.

The ousted President Lennox Sebe, who left on a trade mission to Hong Kong last Friday, cut short his trip

yesterday and headed for home via Taiwan. An aide said he was concerned about his son, General Kwame Sebe, the former head of the Ciskei police, who had been reported arrested, and his wife.

Mr Sebe assumed power in 1981, when the country became one of the present four independent homelands set up by Pretoria to segregate black tribes, and his rule has been marked by accusations of corruption and nepotism.

Attacks on Mr Sebe's homes and those of his family were part of the chaos, according to witnesses, and factories belonging to Taiwanese and Israelis - Ciskei's largest foreign investors besides South Africa - were also hard hit.



The Blackbird: Victim of cutbacks in federal defence budget.

# Spy plane beats speed record on final flight

Washington (Reuters) - The SR71 "Blackbird" spy plane, leaving service after more than two decades of top-secret surveillance missions, shattered the speed record for flying across the United States yesterday as it flew into retirement.

Flown by a US Air Force pilot, the black, delta-winged aircraft, said to be capable of 2,200mph, sped from Los Angeles to Washington in one hour and four minutes, beating a record set in 1983. It will go on public display in the capital on March 17, becoming the centrepiece of a new branch of the Smithsonian Institution's Air and Space Museum.

The Americans' fleet of Blackbirds, successors to the legendary U2 spy plane, are victims of federal budget cuts. Pentagon planners say the Blackbirds' mission of high-altitude photography can just as easily be carried out by satellites.

# Accent on le mot juste to fight franglais

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

There is no more staunch defender of the French language than President Mitterrand, who wields it with rare majesty and has never been known to speak anything else in public.

Yesterday he was at the barricades once more, opening the proceedings of the High Council of Francophone Nations and blessing their unceasing - though increasingly unwelcome - efforts to protect the tongue of Voltaire, Racine and Corneille from the depredations of English.

For a good few years now the irresistible advance of the language of Shakespeare throughout the world - there are an estimated 700 million English speakers - has been a source of alarm and acute irritation to many in France. By stretching the definition somewhat, the language protection lobby here lays claim to 120 million French speakers at most, and with

former strongholds like West Africa beginning to backslide the trend is very definitely down.

The fact that practically every level of French society today is also being "contaminated" by English, to use the words of one pressure group, only rubs salt into the wound. In business, science, entertainment and the media, English has become more or less essential, and with 1992 looming France's language schools are doing a roaring trade teaching what M. Bernard Billand, head of the Commissariat Général de la Langue Française, has disdainfully maintained is not "a language of culture".

Appropriately, it was M. Mitterrand who created the Commissariat six years ago, charging it with coordinating efforts to "defend" French. Although M. Billand denies that this amounts to a declaration of war on any particular foreign language, the frequency with which phrases like "siege" and "invasion" crop up when

English is discussed suggests the French view this as another round in the battle against *les anglo-saxons*.

As the command post of France's linguistic Maginot Line, the Commissariat is particularly concerned about the inroads of *franglais*, periodically issuing dictionaries of official neologisms for the guidance of the nation's civil servants. The latest contained some 2,400 items, many arising from the worldwide use of English in advanced technology.

Thus, software becomes *logiciel* and digital switching is *commutation numérique*. More famously, or perhaps risibly, fast food was supposed to give way to *prêt-à-manger*, jumbo jet to *gras porteur*, boom to *boom*. The rude world of commerce is beyond the reach of M. Billand's edicts, but under a law passed in 1975 it became an offence, punishable by modest fines, to use English in the promotion or sale of goods and services.

This in turn inspired the creation of

a private vigilante group called the Association Générale pour les Usages de la langue Française, dedicated to hunting down transgressors. Its victims have ranged from the Paris Opera, guilty of printing programmes for *Bubbling Brown Sugar* in English, to TWA, for its temerity in handing out boarding cards in English at L'Aéroport Charles de Gaulle, and Evian for calling a new line in bottled water *le fast drink des Alpes*.

All this might seem very petty to outsiders, but the passionate desire of the French to preserve their sinuous and, properly used, highly precise language reflects a genuine fear that their national identity is under threat.

As M. Mitterrand's (English speaking) Minister of Culture, M. Jack Lang, once observed, "our very soul" is at stake. After all, this is the country where a recent report suggesting that *l'accent circonflexe* - the little hat over the vowels - might be done away with made headline news.

# World Bank education loans will double to £915m a year

From Neil Kelly, Jomtien, Thailand

The World Bank is to double its lending for education in the developing world.

Mr Barber Conable, the president, told the World Conference on Education for All yesterday that education lending would rise to \$1.5 billion (£915 million) a year in the next three years, about 7 per cent of World Bank lending.

Basic primary education would be given priority.

Some delegates said the important change in the bank's lending policy had followed 10 years of pressure from individual governments, education experts and the United Nations.

A senior UN official said he

believed the bank had acted now because the economic difficulties of the 1980s and huge international debts had forced low-income countries to cut their education budgets by up to 20 per cent.

Mr Conable said the bank would take particular care to ensure that programmes it funded would improve education for girls.

Ingrained bias against female education had to be removed from societies where girls were kept away from school or compelled to leave before finishing their education.

Nearly two-thirds of the world's children not at school

were girls, he said. A similar proportion of the world's 1 billion illiterates were women.

Mr Conable proposed urgent action to provide primary schools for more than 100 million children not receiving education. Experts say the number of such children will double within a decade without corrective action.

The conference, attended by 1,300 government and non-government delegates from 130 countries, is the biggest ever devoted to education.

It hopes to produce by Friday a plan guaranteeing education for all by the year 2000. The expected cost is \$50 billion.



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## PARLIAMENT

## Time is running out for Tories, says Brown

In a biting attack on the Government's trade record, Mr Gordon Brown, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said that the Conservatives were running out of oil, out of ideas, and out of excuses. Now time was running out on them.

Opening an Opposition debate on the balance of payments, interest rates and industry, he spoke of members of the Cabinet leaving their jobs to spend time with their families. Who was left to carry the torch? Mr Nicholas Ridley and the Prime Minister, the last devotees of Thatcherism — the Darby and Joan of the Cabinet (laughter).

Mr Ridley, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said that it was the long-term trend, not one month's trade figures, that was important. The trend was improving.

The trade deficit was the result of demand in the economy being in excess of productive capacity. Measures taken to curb excessive demand were working.

Mr Brown moved a motion condemning the Government's economic failure and expressing concern at the rising number of business bankruptcies and redundancies and at the investment cuts in the run up to 1992.

He said that Britain's trade deficit was bigger and worse as a share of national income than any competitor country's and it reflected the huge fall in Britain's share of world trade despite all the claims that it had stabilized.

The deficit had reinforced the need for Labour's industrial policy of investment in training, research and development and in the regions and its policy of ensuring the European exchange rate mechanism, after negotiations, to bring interest rates down.

The deficit had been dismissed in 1987 as due to freak figures, a blip, changes in cus-

The level of interest rates dominated question-time exchanges between Mr Neil Kinnock and the Prime Minister, with each accusing the other of being the speculators' friend.

The Leader of the Opposition asked Mrs Thatcher to take the opportunity firmly to reject calls coming from those in the City who wanted interest rates to be raised yet again.

Mrs Thatcher said that rates were at the level deemed necessary to press down on inflation and they would stay at whatever level that was.

Mr Kinnock said that many millions of people would be disappointed by the Prime Minister's refusal to be firm in this matter (Conservative protests).

Her policy was hitting home buyers and businesses but was not controlling credit. The policies were hurting but definitely not working.

Mrs Thatcher said that she believed the policies were working and that activity was being raised. "Mr Kinnock asks me to make further comments on interest rates. That can only help speculators and is a totally irresponsible question on his part" (Conservative cheers).

Mr Kinnock: No prime minister has ever been more of a speculators' friend than her (loud Labour cheers). At the same time... she was the enemy of businesses and home buyers.

Mrs Thatcher said that business had a higher rate of output than ever before, a higher number of people employed than ever before, and a higher rate of investment. It was Mr Kinnock who was trying to speak it by being the speculators' friend.

Some procedure, in 1988 as the result of a cross-Channel strike and then a sign of growing investment in Britain.

Last year, the explanation for the £20 billion deficit had been excess demand, then excess investment, then a surge in investment.

The explanation for the January figures was "various". Next month it would probably be because the Tories were back (Opposition laughter).

The truth was that the Tories were in the House, on the government front bench.

It was not a temporary difficulty of the past few months, but a problem created over the past 10 years, as Britain had moved from a manufacturing surplus of £2.7 billion to a deficit of £18 billion.

Sir Geoffrey Howe had made a speech last week that had been largely ignored by the Tory Party propaganda machine. This barely audible voice from the internal exile of the House of Commons had called for greater emphasis on manufacturing industry.

first government department in history [the DTI] to do nothing. Struggling sunrise industries were looking in vain for help from a sunset department. Mr Ridley was the invisible hand at an invisible department.

It was now a department that does nothing with an ideological commitment that nothing should be done. Mr Ridley had more of a past than a future.

Mr Ridley: The last thing I want to do is to spend more time with my family (loud laughter).

Mr Brown said that, judging by the number of ministers who were spending more time with their families, he was beginning to believe that the Tories were the party of the family.

The Government was oblivious to the problems industry was facing through high interest rates. The whole nation outside the Cabinet, and even the deputy Prime Minister outside the Cabinet, recognized the trade deficit problem.

This Government had no policy other than to repeat the mistakes it had already made. It would be a do-nothing Budget and next year there would be another explosion of credit. Another short-term Lawson boom but by a different name.

By the end of the year the best they could hope for was inflation at 6 per cent and a trade deficit of about £15 billion, another 10 years before the Tories came to power.

Who was left to blame? The churches, Brian Redhead, the Archbishop of Canterbury? Having blamed everyone else there was no one to blame but themselves.

Mr Ridley moved an amendment condemning the Government's policies that had led to the highest rate of economic growth in the EC, and commending the Government's resolve to bear down on inflation.

He said that Mr Brown's speech had not contained a single grain of Labour policy. Mr Brown should spend more time with his family. It was wasted here. It was the long-term trend, not one month's



figures, that was important. The trend was improving.

Export volume in the past three months was 4.5 per cent higher than the previous year. Import volume was 1 per cent lower. The trend was moving firmly in the right direction, including January's figures.

Mr Brown had excelled himself in a newspaper article saying that the solution was to rush to

Eastern Europe and supply British high quality consumer goods to the inhabitants there.

The best thing for him to do is to hope we will all forget that Eastern Europe did adopt his policies. If you want to see planning in action, go and stand in a bread queue in Bucharest or put your name down for a telephone in Warsaw.

The way for Britain to help

Eastern Europe was through major private investment.

The trade deficit was the result of demand in the economy being in excess of productive capacity. Measures taken to curb excessive demand were working.

The story was recorded in increases in production, productivity, exports, profits, investment and employment.

## Talks on German future continue

Firm backing of the West German Government's wish that a united Germany should remain in Nato came from Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Defence.

Asked about the implications of unification for Britain's defence policy, Mr King said: "We strongly support the Federal German Government's expressed wish that a united Germany should be a member of the Nato Alliance. Consultations on the security implications of unification will continue within Nato and between the four powers and the two Germanies."

## Further look at Wales fund

The Government might have to look again at its contribution to the fund set up to help the people of North Wales hit by last week's storms, Mrs Thatcher said at question time.

The contribution to the fund had been given in proportion to what the Government understood the damage to be.

The Prime Minister had been pressed on the issue by Sir Anthony Meyer (Clywd North West, C). He said that the Government's contribution to the fund had been welcome but it compared unfavourably with what it rightly gave to overseas earthquake victims.

## Dangers of low flight

Low-flying military aircraft over Yorkshire are straying from the moors and terrorising the people in the foothills and villages, as well as farm animals and domestic pets, Mr Geoffrey Dickens (Lincolnshire South, C) said during defence questions. RAF pilots should be instructed to keep away from the villages.

Mr Michael Neenan, Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, said that pilots must be able to practice low flying. The RAF had an excellent safety record.

## Decision soon on fighter

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Defence, told MPs during questions that he hoped it would be possible to make an announcement "very soon" on the awarding of the final major contract for the radar system for the European Fighter Aircraft.

## Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Debate on MPs' interests: motion on Mr John Browne's suspension. Lords (2.30): Debates on Citizens' Advice Bureau and on the pressure on NHS staff.

## Chief Rabbi in demand for embryo study restrictions

No embryo should ever be generated solely for research purposes, said Jakobovits, the Chief Rabbi, said in the House of Lords during report stage of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill.

He was moving the first of a series of amendments to that end. It was rejected by 214 votes to 80.

He said that research should be restricted to such embryos as were produced to bring about live birth.

There was no reason why excess embryos should not be used, once it was impossible for them to develop into human life.

Research to be done on so-called "spare" embryos should be strictly limited to vital research such as the relief of infertility and the prevention of

## HOUSE OF LORDS

grave genetic abnormalities. Research should not include the frivolous — such as a preference for boys or for blue-eyed children or for smaller humans to reduce the payload of space ships.

He would also exclude the development of contraceptives. In that he was not dealing with morality but was making the point that that was not sufficiently urgent to justify the use of human embryos.

Very few research programmes might have to be curtailed or modified if the amendments were made and the most vital tests could be continued unhindered.

The Bishop of London, Dr

Graham Leonard, welcomed the amendments which, he said, would permit research under which embryos would be created. They could not adopt a purely pragmatic view towards the use to be made of an embryo.

They had to judge the use of embryonic material on the basis of whether it was a use that could properly be made of material which was part of the human species.

Lord Walton of Ditchford (Ind) said that the amendments were an understandable emotional response, but could not be justified on closer examination, whether on moral, theological or scientific grounds.

If it became law, it would effectively prevent much work now acknowledged by scientists to be essential to the efficacy of in vitro fertilisation.

## Tax complaints amuse Labour

To the great amusement of the Labour benches, Conservative MPs queued up at question time to complain about high community charges being set by Labour-controlled councils in their constituencies.

The "Prime Minister accused such authorities of 'profligate' expenditure and of having little consideration for the pockets of their constituents."

Opening the exchanges, Mr Michael Martin (Glasgow, Springfield, Lab) said that this morning, BBC radio had stated that the people of England would be 30 per cent worse off than they were last year with the old rating system.

His friends are deserting her on the Conservative side of the House. Why doesn't she give up with the irrational obsession to implement the poll tax? (Labour cheers).

Mrs Thatcher said that the Today programme had confirmed a figure she gave to the House on February 20.

If local authorities were going to spend up to £3 billion extra over and above what the Government considered reasonable, that would be equivalent to a 35 per cent increase in domestic rates. "I am delighted

that the BBC and I are for once in total agreement." The increase came from authorities spending way above what they should.

Mr Jeremy Hayes (Harlow, C) said that it really was the most rank hypocrisy of following Harlow council to try to pin the blame of a £425 community charge on the Government when it was the highest spending authority in the country.

"Although the next few weeks will show some stormy weather, eventually the public will realize that the community charge is there to protect them... (loud Labour laughter).

Mrs Thatcher said that the lesson would be learnt that it was Labour authorities that were the high spenders.

Mr Jonathan Sayeed (Bristol East, C) said that in Avon, because of incompetence and overspending, the local authority, controlled by the Labour and Liberal parties, was likely to set a budget resulting in a community charge of more than £500.

Mrs Thatcher said that, according to the Association of County Councils, Avon was one of the top 10 county council overspenders. "He rightly contrasts the position

there with Westminster" which had "a good Tory council".

Mr Malcolm Bruce (Gordon, Lib Dem) said it was a little strange that Tories were squealing now about the poll tax but they had done nothing for Scotland. The tax was unfair and unwelcome. A roof tax was no fairer and so more workable. If income tax was the fairest way of taxing for central government, it should be for local government too.

Mrs Thatcher said that the domestic rates had been revalued in Scotland after seven years and there was an outcry far worse than anything seen from the community charge.

Mr David Amess (Basildon, C) said that the high charge in Basildon was the result of the authority's subsidizing the theatre by £1.6 million, building a huge civic centre and sending everyone a Valentine's card at a cost of £46,000. Would she charge-cap Basildon?

Mrs Thatcher said that capping was a matter for the Secretary of State (Mr Chris Patten). "He will not hesitate to use his powers where there is excessive spending." Letters, page 15

## Tory faces the disaffected faithful

## Thatcher makes a certain impact

By Nicholas Wood  
Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister made her customary mid-term impact on the Tory campaign in the Mid-Stuffordshire by-election as the debate switched from the poll tax to great dictators of our times.

Mr Charles Prior, the Conservative candidate struggling to protect a 14,650 majority, was 20 votes light on election day but began his stroll around the market in Epsley, that bloody Women, the agent of so many Conservative by-election setbacks, has struck again.

The messenger was Mr Clifford Sheppard, a retired clerk, aged 65, who sported a sword cap and lifetime support for the Conservative Party. As the television cameras rolled, he impaled on an unhappy Mr Prior why he would be staying at home on March 22.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher had done some wonderful things, but success had gone to her head.

"I believe Mrs Thatcher is going to cost you this seat. She has become as dictatorial. She has done some tremendous good for this country, but unless she gets off her high horse, I won't be voting for you."

Mr Sheppard added that he knew his 20 fellow Tories who took the same view, going on to further discomfort Mr Prior by likening the Prime Minister to Hitler and Mussolini.

The country had needed strong leadership over the past 10 years, Mr Prior responded, and Mrs Thatcher had restored Britain's reputation in the world. The Government was a team and Mrs Thatcher listened to ministers with a case to make. "I think you have got a great team but I am leader," Mr Sheppard replied.

Mr Prior had clearly passed his loyalty test, which was just as well because earlier this nephew of Lord Prior, the former Cabinet minister and Tory vet, had been leaving room for doubt.

In a stimulating defence of what at times resembled Labour's anti-car transport policy, Mr Prior parted company with Mr Gerald Howarth, his con-



Onward Christian Soldiers: Miss Joan Lester, MP (left), singing hymns with Mrs Sylvia Heal, the Labour candidate, at Flaxley County Primary School in Rugeley yesterday.

paign minder and the robustly Thatcherite MP for neighbouring Cannock and Burnwood.

"Personally, I am a great train man," he said, apparently oblivious to Mrs Thatcher's penchant for bullet-proof Delmonios.

"I have always used trains — straight into the city centre if one can go by train, then have a good bus service around the centre, that's the kind of choice I have always made."

"But I do recognise that other people... I know that Gerald is a great user of his car and does not like trains."

It was left to Mr Howarth to heal the breach and spare the blushes of Mr Michael Portillo, the visiting Minister of State for Transport, who had steered round the road versus rail controversy by announcing that

ship as it swelled its candidates, Dr Christopher Abell, a GP from East Dereham in Norfolk.

The new party, formed five weeks ago, has been unable to find a standard bearer among the 40 or so family doctors in the constituency.

Dr Judy Gilley, a Londoner and one of its founder members, said that that was possibly because of the influence of Mr Philip Jones, chairman of Staffordshire Family Practitioner Committee.

Mr Jones is also chairman of the local Conservative association.

But Mr Jones proved a reluctant dictator. "It's complete nonsense," he said. "It's my capacity as chairman of the committee I am completely non-political."

MID-STAFFS BY-ELECTION

1987 General election: J Heddie (C) 28,644; C St Hill (Lab) 13,990; T Jones (L/AU) 13,114; J Rugeley (Independent C) 836. C maj: 14,654.

much would be revealed later in the year in a white paper.

Mr Howarth confessed to using the InnerCity service to London, which, he said, was now making money, thanks to Mr Portillo.

## 'Final nail in Radio 2 coffin'

The BBC hierarchy had driven the final nail into the coffin of Radio 2 by condemning it to VHF only, Mr Jerry Wiggin (Weston-Super-Mare, C) said in a Commons adjournment debate late on Monday night.

He said that the BBC had done that despite admitting the size of the audience and recognizing the need to provide a music-cum-news-cum-documentary programme.

Millions of people listened to Radio 2 each week. Many of them were already concerned at the deterioration of standards and the general level of entertainment on Radio 2, and would find the move from medium wave to FM the last straw.

Many people would not be able to receive light music programmes, and some did not receive FM radio at all. Many car radios would require constant re-tuning on long journeys.

Mr Peter Lloyd, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said that the Government's own policy was to introduce more competition into broadcasting in the interests of listeners, and of viewers, too. That would not only offer more services to listen to but also provide a healthy stimulus to the BBC.

The BBC was rapidly building FM transmitters to bring FM services to those areas that did not have them. Some Radio 2 listeners did not have FM radio sets, but they were a minority.

The acts could be cheap.

any, C), moving the Bill, said that every day millions of women performed the incredible trick of going out to work and at the same time managing their home and families. Forty five per cent of all jobs were carried out by women, the great majority married women.

Expenses reasonably incurred in looking after children or a home should be treated as a business expense.

If employers provided a crèche or nursery, that was

treated as a tax "perk" if the woman was earning more than £8,500 a year.

Though some large employers, including the Treasury, provided crèche facilities, there would always be a majority of women working in small companies which could not provide such facilities.

Mr Stanbrook said that if the Bill was passed it would be harmful to children, disruptive to family life and make worse the injustices already suffered by mothers who worked at

home without pay. "There is overwhelming evidence to show that most mothers of young children who go out to work thereby cause psychological injury to themselves as well as their children. Some might be compelled to do so, but it should not blind them to the fact that depriving young people of love and affection within a stable family unit is the cause of much social difficulty, reflected in the increase in crime, vandalism, divorce and plain cruelty to children."

## NatWest Crown Reserve INTEREST RATES

NatWest announces the following increases in interest rates effective from 7th March 1990:

Crown Reserve			
Customers not affected by CMT		Customers affected by CMT	
Gross interest per annum		Net interest per annum	Gross equivalent per annum to a basic rate taxpayer
14.75%	Crown Reserve Account - £25,000 and above	11.50%	15.33%
14.50%	Crown Reserve Account - £10,000-£24,999	11.25%	15.00%
14.25%	Crown Reserve Account - £2,000-£9,999	10.75%	14.33%

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## SPECTRUM

# Europe on the road to revolution

Europe's great natural barriers of mountains and sea are being overcome by astonishing new road and rail systems.

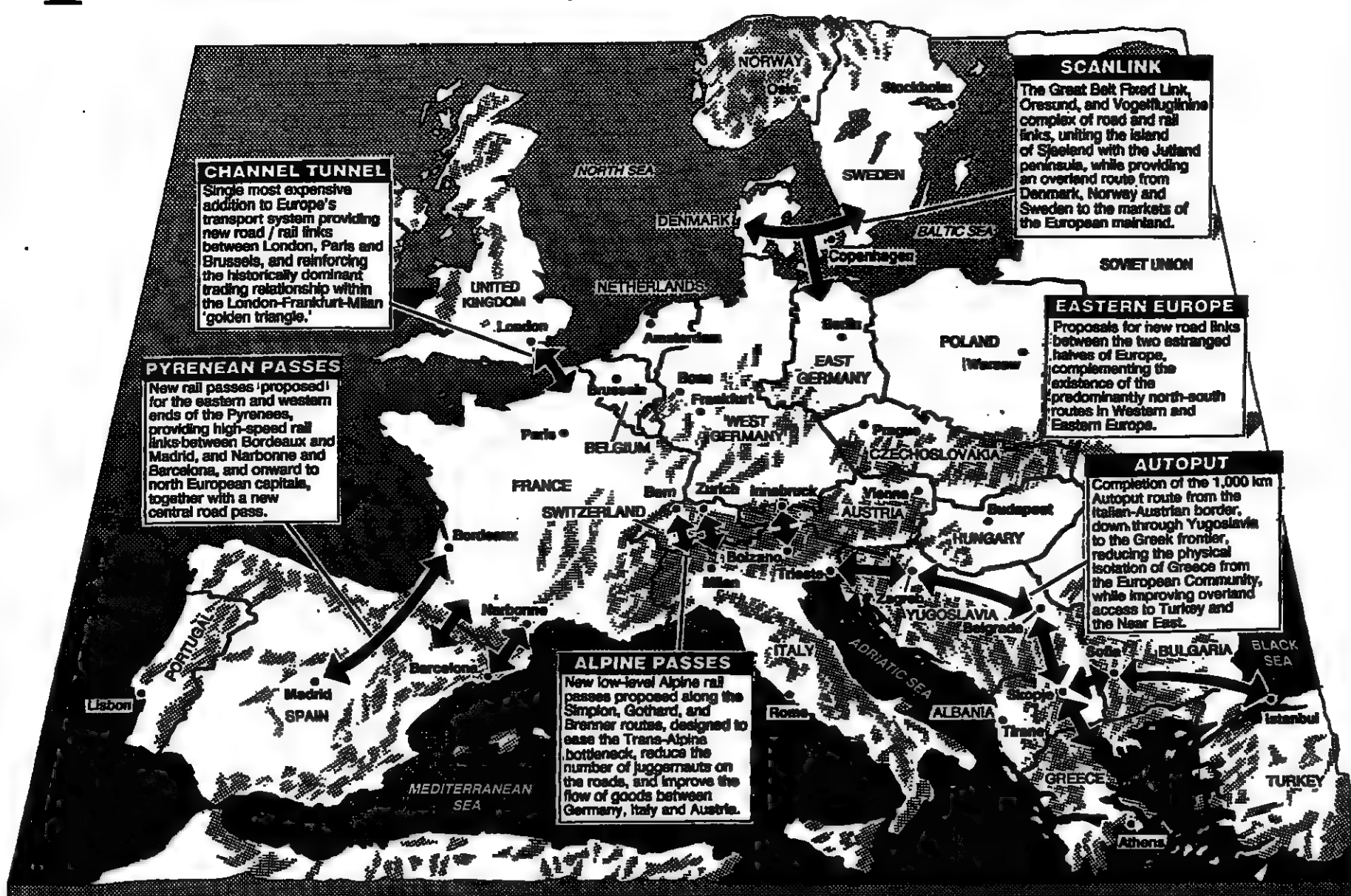
Michael Dynes reports on the greatest development in transport since the days of the Roman Empire

Almost imperceptibly, de Gaulle's Europe *des frontières* — a continent defined by territorial boundaries, ideological tensions, and a formidable array of water, mountain, and land barriers — is painstakingly giving birth to the European Commission's vision of a Europe *sans frontières*.

The combination of the European Community's 1992 programme, the collapse of the East European dictatorships, and the determination of the six-member European Free Trade Association to participate in the Community's promised economic renaissance, is giving substance to the vision of an economically and geographically integrated Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals.

While attention has tended to focus on the acrimonious controversies surrounding the European Commission's single market programme, what level of access should be granted to the EFTA countries, and the formidable challenge of rebuilding Eastern Europe, very little notice is being given to efforts to bridge the "missing links" in Europe's transport infrastructure.

Yet the historic natural barriers inhibiting European integration, from the English Channel, to the ranges of the Alps and Pyrenees, the water masses of the Baltic Straits, the physical isolation of Greece, together with the separate economic development of the eastern half of the continent, are in



the process of being eliminated one by one.

Viewed in isolation, each of the great physical barriers appears to have little more than regional consequences, impairing the movement of goods and people between one country and its neighbour. Collectively, it is claimed, they have fettered trade and commerce across the continent, while condemning the outlying regions to suffer the economic costs of "peripherality".

Almost without us noticing, the transport revolution of the last decade has filled our retail outlets with tomatoes from Spain, fridges from Italy, cooked meats from Germany, and cookies from Denmark. But once Europe's remaining transport missing links are eliminated, the range of products from all over the continent is likely to explode.

In the influential report published by the Royal Institution of

Chartered Surveyors, *Transport In The Nineties: The Shaping of Europe*, transport analyst Terence Bendixson describes the Channel Tunnel — the single most expensive addition to Europe's transport — as the "first great infrastructure project to come out of the New Europe".

"The importance of what the tunnel stands for cannot be exaggerated," he says. "It breaks new ground politically, financially, and in transport terms. It is a physical symbol of Britain's commitment to European unity. It is evidence that the politically sensitive cost issue can be neatly side-stepped by relying on the private sector" (and it provides an opportunity for British Rail to become like British Airways, a major European transport corporation).

Moreover, the tunnel will reinforce the historically dominant trading relationships within the so-called London-Frankfurt-Milan "golden triangle", at the very

moment when northern Europe's economic pre-eminence is being challenged by the emergence of a European sunbelt, running along the Mediterranean from Barcelona to Trieste, and by the lure of *perestroika* and the promise of the east.

With the Channel Tunnel well under way, albeit stumbling from one financial crisis to another, attention has shifted to overcoming the second great European transport bottleneck — the Alps. The three main rail-tunnel passes, the Simplon, Gotthard, and Brenner, which serve the flow of goods and people between Germany, Italy, and Austria, are full to capacity.

They are all being examined for upgrading. The goal is to excavate three new tunnels at much lower levels, along the Simplon route linking Spiez to Brig in Switzerland; the Gotthard route linking Zurich and Lugano

on the Italian frontier; and Innsbruck to Bolzano in Italy, thereby providing the much needed increased capacity, while at the same time enabling rail traffic to travel faster and at lower cost.

Negotiations between Germany, Italy, and Switzerland over route alignments are still in progress. But they will not come cheap. The estimated cost for 60km of tunnel for the new Simplon Pass, the least ambitious of the three projects, is some £3,000 million — and as the Channel Tunnel has demonstrated, this is likely to be on the conservative side.

Nevertheless, pressure for the new tunnels is rapidly becoming irresistible. Ms Bendixson says: "Italy is cut off from the rest of Europe because of the Alps. German industry is facing transport bottlenecks because of the lack of capacity, and Switzerland is becoming exasperated at having to endure the diabolical environmental problems of increased road traffic — all the muck and noise of the benefits."

Since the accession of Spain and Portugal to the Community, work has also begun on tunnelling the Pyrenees. The existing road and rail routes, running along the Mediterranean to the east, and the Atlantic Ocean to the west, together with the two central road routes from Pau to Zaragoza, and Toulouse to Barcelona, are in need of upgrading and increased capacity.

Proposals are already on the table for new central road tunnel schemes, along with high-speed rail links between Bordeaux and Madrid, and between Narbonne and Barcelona, linking with the embryonic French *Train à Grande*

**A shortlist of priority road and rail schemes is now being drawn up which could ultimately lead to the creation of a Manchester to Moscow pan-European highway**

Vitesse network, and opening up the prospect of inter-continental high-speed rail services between Madrid, Paris and London.

Completion of the multi-billion pound Scanlink, a composite programme of road and rail bridges and tunnels, will leap over the Baltic Straits, link Scandinavia and Denmark's eastern island with mainland Europe, and effectively end centuries of geographical isolation.

Scanlink entails three separate schemes, the Great Belt Fixed Link, the Oresund Tunnel, and the Vogelfluglinie — literally "bird's flight line", which are as important to the trade and commerce

of Denmark and the rest of Scandinavia as the Channel Tunnel is to the economies of Britain and France.

Work is well advanced on the Great Belt project, a combined road-rail bridge-tunnel between the island of Sjælland and the Jutland peninsula. While plans to complete the Oresund, across the sea between the island of Sjælland and Sweden; and the Vogelfluglinie, between Sjælland and Germany, are next on the agenda.

Increasing attention is also being paid to the predicament of Greece, a Community member, physically separated from its European partners by Yugoslavia. At present, the 1,000 km Autoput route, Yugoslavia's equivalent of the M1, running down the spine of the country, is the only international road link.

From the Italian and Austrian borders it meanders south to Belgrade, via Zagreb, and on to the Greek frontier, with branches off to Sofia and Istanbul.

Yugoslav authorities have already improved the first section to Belgrade, and have been slowly extending it down to Skopje, with the help of the Community's European Investment Bank.

The Autoput is part of Eastern Europe's nascent motorway system, designed with the support of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, to link the Baltic with the Black Sea. It is also a classic illustration of how, since the end of the Second World War, the two estranged halves of Europe have put money into north-south routes — a policy which has been turned on its head in the wake of *glasnost*.

Without minimizing the importance of eliminating the Community's missing links, Karl Van Miert, the European Commissioner for Transport, is currently preparing some rather radical proposals for improving road and rail transport links between the Community and its eastern neighbours.

Having appointed an official to identify what will be needed to link east with west, Van Miert will shortly be seeking support from EC governments for a new "seedcorn fund", to be spent on East European transport infrastructure projects, using surplus western construction capacity.

Also in preparation is a trans-European transport congress, to be convened in Berlin towards the end of the year, designed to draw up a shortlist of priority road and rail schemes, which could ultimately lead to the creation of a Manchester to Moscow pan-European highway.

Commission officials are enthusiastic about the initiative. "We can't reduce distances but we can overcome their cost," one transport official said. They are dismissive of recent criticisms that by improving links from the golden triangle to the peripheral regions, they will increase the dominance of the more advanced economies, while undermining weaker economies.

Hugh Rees, an official in the commission's Transport Directorate insists: "That is like saying we need bad roads to promote economic activity in the Community's poorer regions. New businesses will only be attracted by improved transport links. No one can seriously suggest going back to the horse and cart."

## EXCLUSIVE THIS WEEK IN HELLO!

### ● SUSAN AND HECTOR BARRANTES

The Duchess of York's mother and stepfather talk movingly of his courageous fight against illness and of their hopes for his recovery.

### ● MALCOLM FORBES: THE LAST INTERVIEW

On the day before he died, we spoke to the millionaire publisher at his house in London.

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● LATOYAH JACKSON'S NEW LUXURY PENTHOUSE

● JAN LEEMING: FOURTH TIME LUCKY IN MARRIAGE

● LORD LAMBTON SPEAKS TO US FROM HIS PALAZZO IN TUSCANY

JUST A SAMPLE OF THE EXCLUSIVES YOU'LL FIND IN HELLO! EVERY WEEK THIS WEEK'S ISSUE ON SALE NOW



## Threads binding an empire

The earliest roads in Europe were the so-called "amber routes", which scholars believe were used between 1900 and 300BC, by Etruscan and Greek traders, to transport amber and tin from north Europe to the Mediterranean and the Adriatic.

But the first "scientific" road builders were the Romans, who at the peak of their expansion had built some 53,000 miles of high-quality road, linking Rome with every corner of the empire — the most famous of which was the 410-mile Appian Way from Rome to Brindisi.

As well as their famous ability to preserve a straight line from point to point, traversing marshes, lakes, rivers, and mountains, the Romans were also responsible for building the first trans-European road network, covering the continent like a spider's web.

Though the European Commission is still struggling to realize its vision of a Europe *sans frontières*, more than 2,000 years ago the Roman Empire had created a vast trading area, supported by an elaborate network of roads, complete with the free movement of goods and people — and a common currency.

At its height the Roman road system linked the cultures of Europe, North Africa, Asia Minor, and India. But as the empire declined in the early Christian era, the road system became invasion routes, and road networks all over the continent were allowed to fall into centuries of disrepair.

Apart from the introduction of paved streets in city centres during the 12th, 15th, and 16th centuries, road building in Europe on a scale comparable with the Roman achievement did not re-emerge until the 18th century. And it was not until the 20th century, with the construction of motorways, that the Roman road system was surpassed.

### TOMORROW

The law on babies born to surrogate mothers makes genetic parents adopt their children, be perpetual foster parents — or lose their legal rights. On tomorrow's Health Page, Thomson Prentice talks to a couple who are fighting to get the law changed

### HAPPY ENDING

Long life and happiness — that's what we all say. But there is a price to pay for living longer. Ours is £134,000 — to achieve our £1 Million target to provide more nursing care and better accommodation for the old and needy. Please help us to ensure that this vital project, too, has a happy ending.

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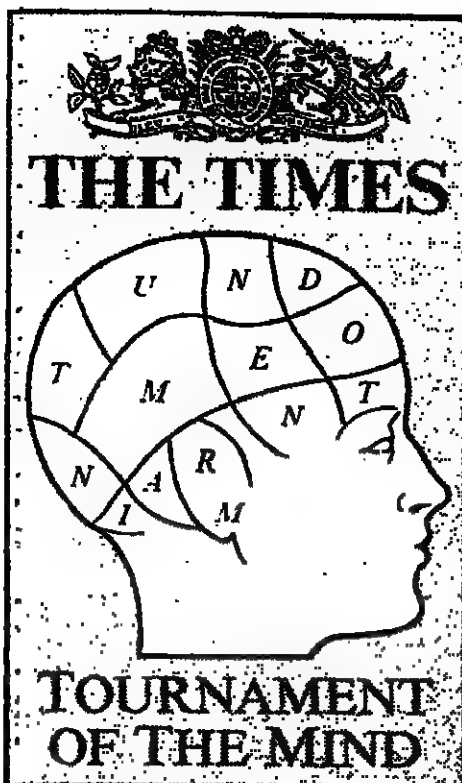
**FRIENDS OF THE ELDERLY**  
and Gentlefolk's help





## SPECTRUM

# Tournament of the Mind



● Do you pride yourself on having a logical mind? Round Two of *The Times* Tournament of the Mind 1990 gives you the chance to cross intellectual swords with thousands of other readers.

● At stake is £5,000 cash for the individual winner, and a Hewlett Packard computer for the winning school. But everyone who enters the Tournament will receive a special certificate.

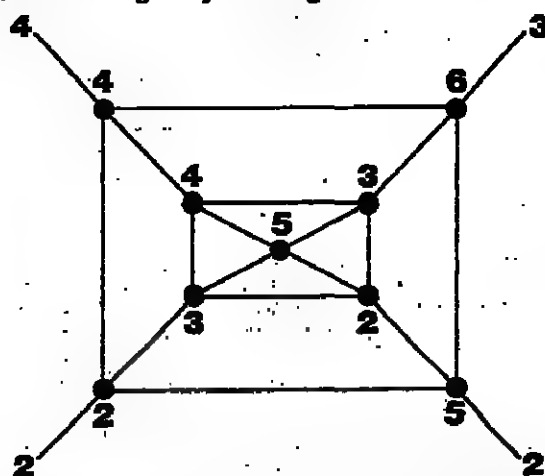
● It will be played in 20 rounds published daily in *The Times* over the next three weeks.

● The questions have been set by, and will be marked by, Mensa. The *Collins English Dictionary* and the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* are the only reference works to be used to gain the answers.

● For those who missed Round One yesterday, the first five rounds will be repeated on Saturday.

## 1. DIAGRAMS

In this diagram you must start on any of the four outside corners, make a note of its value and work along the lines, linking four other dots. Stop en route and add the value of each dot to your running total. However, you may use only one outside corner in any route and you may not retrace your steps. How many distinct ways are there of scoring 19 by following these instructions?



## 2. VERBAL

Here is a famous quotation with the vowels missed out. What is the quotation?

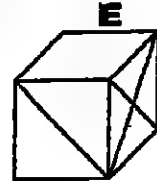
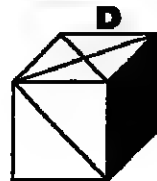
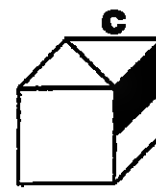
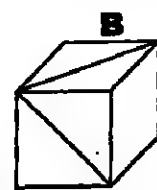
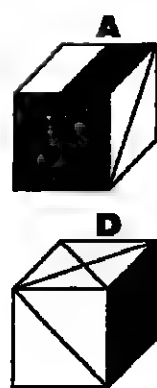
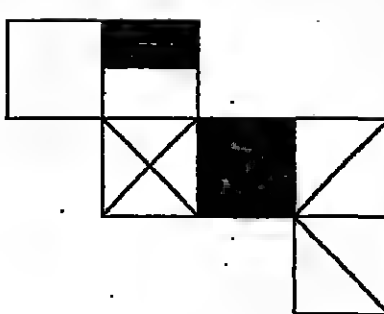
V R Y M N V R F R T Y S S C N D R L

## 3. MATHS

In a 200 metre race Fred beats Bill by 10 metres. They decide to run the race again. Bill starts on the 200 metre start-line but Fred starts exactly 15 metres behind it. They both run the race at exactly the same speed as before. Can you tell us who won the second race?

## 4. LOGIC

The first diagram is of an unfolded cube. Which of the following six cubes is not a made-up version of the flattened one?



## MISCELLANY

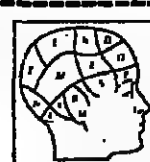
1. The Colossus of Rhodes represented which god?

2. In baseball, who was known as the "Yankee Clipper"?

3. What lake in the United States was known to the Indians as "Andiatarocet"?

4. Who published his first novel, *The White Peacock*, in 1911?

5. Where can you find what is believed to be the only examples of Classical Greek wall painting?



## ROUND 2 - ANSWERS

Cut out your answers and keep this coupon until Round 20. Answers will be accepted only on coupons printed in *The Times*

## PUZZLES

Answer 1

Answer 2

Answer 3

Answer 4

Answer 5

NAME

## Volumes to snooze over, Chapter 2

A month or two ago, I gave readers of *The Times* a unique opportunity, quite possibly sponsored by English Heritage, to take a glimpse at my private collection of the world's most useless books. But the collection is far from exhausted. Here are one or two more for you to snooze over at your leisure.



CRAIG BROWN

1. *Diary of an Election* by Carol Thatcher (1983): "My emotions were muddled between amazement at hearing that the balloon had gone up, and horror at having my slumbers interrupted with such a bombshell." Thus Carol Thatcher recounts her feelings upon hearing that her mother had called the 1983 general election. This breathless pot-pourri of mixed metaphors balloons and bombs its way through the rest of this account of life with Mum on the hustings. Revelations are absent, and grammar takes a back seat.

"Her mission between now and polling day is to sell the achievements of the last four years and to expose the Labour Party's manifesto as the devastating document and extreme left-wing set of proposals it really is," writes Carol. She later criticizes her mother's treatment on the Sue Lawley phone-in with a swipe of her lead-filled prose: "The best way to describe what went on the air is that it represented an example of the most crass nastiness and discourtesy shown to a Prime Minister on a television programme." Towards the end of this brief book, Carol has her own question-and-answer session with her mother, who appears strangely standoffish: Carol: "What, as Britain's first woman Prime Minister, have you brought to the job?" Margaret Thatcher: "I'm not the person to answer that question." Carol: "OK. How's it changed you?" Margaret Thatcher: "I'm not the person to answer that question either..." Carol then gives Sue Lawley a lesson in niceness and courtesy by asking this uniquely soft-hitting question: "How, after four years, when all your predecessors have looked positively knackered and exhausted, can you look younger and prettier when you go on television?"

3. *Rock Stars in Their Underpants* by Paula Yates (1980): This short book, "photographed and compiled" by Paula Yates, is a collection of Polaroid snaps. It is dedicated "to Bob (Geldof) whose underpants were the inspiration for this book". Above the dedication is an almost scientifically vivid photo of Mr Geldof's underpants - black with turquoise and

white stripes - hanging over a bed-post. These were the days before Live Aid, and had photographic evidence such as this been placed in the hands of the Devil's Advocate, Bob's canonization may well have been jeopardized.

But the rest of the book is even more unnerving, mainly because the other underpants on display are filled by rock stars rather than bed-posts. Or, to be more accurate, they were filled by rock stars. But 10 years in rock music is the equivalent of two centuries in any other art form, and now, alas, the book should more accurately be titled *Ex-Rock Stars in Their Underpants*. Somehow, their underpants have outlasted the fame of Leif Garrett, Richard Jobson of *The Slits*, Bebe Buell, Rob Halford of Judas Priest and Pete Way of UFO.

4. *Men ARE Pigs* by Busceno de Mesquita (1927): Many people seem to think that the throw-away novelty humorous book is a recent invention. This book, written in reply to an earlier book called *Women ARE Cats* by an anonymous man, proves that desperately funny joke

Ten years in rock is the equivalent of two centuries in any other art form. The book should be titled *Ex-Rock Stars in Their Underpants*

books have been the backbone of publishers' lists for well over 60 years. *Men ARE Pigs* consists of dim-witted aphorisms such as "Men love champagne. They frequently treat their wives to 'sham pain' too". "Every man has some vice. Some are cruel, some are unfaithful, and some are fat"; and "Men may be harum-scarum, but a harem wouldn't scare 'em".

5. *By God's Will - A Portrait of The Sultan of Brunei* by Lord Chalfont (1989): Did you know that the Sultan of Brunei exhibited "quiet generosity" at school, before going on to be "extremely popular" at Sandhurst, before emerging as "an intelligent, thoughtful political figure of considerable stature"?

You didn't? Then you haven't read Lord Chalfont's adoring portrait.

Lord Chalfont, a non-executive director of Shandwick plc, the public relations firm handling the account of the Brunei Government, concludes that the Sultan "has provided an enviable standard of living for his two hundred thousand people".

Quite why his lordship should be so envious of these shanty-dwellers is never wholly explained. The rather more enviable standard of living that his 200,000 people have provided for the Sultan of Brunei is duly neglected, for this, after all, is the biography of "a serious political figure".



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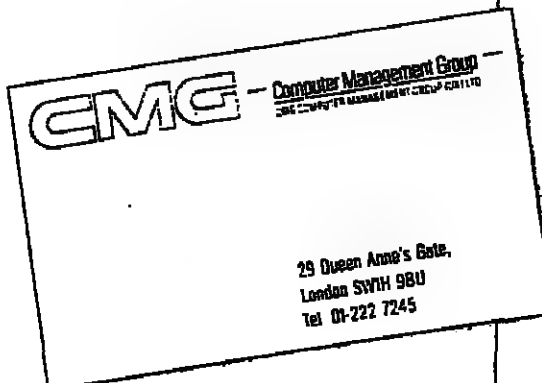
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# TIMES DIARY

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

When the England footballers won the World Cup for the first and only time in 1966, the national euphoria was widely thought to have enhanced the popularity of Harold Wilson's government. If Mrs Thatcher hopes to derive a similar benefit from England's first Test victory over the West Indies in 16 years, I have to tell her that the Opposition is better placed to enjoy any electoral advantage. For England's hero, Devon Malcolm, the black pace bowler who dismissed the great Viv Richards twice in the Test, owes his place in the England side to Margaret Beckett, the Labour MP for Derby South. Two years ago when the Test and County Cricket Board changed its rules to limit the number of overseas players permitted in county teams, Malcolm was in danger of losing his place with Derbyshire. Although resident in Britain since his school days, he did not have a British passport, and the Home Office was showing no sense of urgency in considering his application. Beckett wrote to David Waddington, then Home Office Minister, predicting that he would one day play for England if only the Home Office bestirred itself. Her letter did the trick, and the rest is spread-eagled stumps and sporting history.

More sporting notes. Can it be coincidence that the two days devoted to the committee stage of the Student Loans Bill in the House of Lords have been set an entire week apart? Lord "Bertie" Denham, the Government chief whip, has earmarked next Monday for consideration of the Bill, which the Government is desperate to pass before Easter. The second day, however, is not until March 20. In between is the three-day Cheltenham Gold Cup race meeting, a traditional attraction for lordsips on the Government benches. It seems that Denham is playing safe, doubtless recalling the row a few years ago when a few Tory peers had to filibuster for hours before the crucial division on the abolition of the GLC, while enough of their colleagues to get the measure through made their way back from the Royal Enclosure at Ascot.

With Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, absent in Hungary, junior minister William Waldegrave was deputizing in Cabinet last week. Anxious to impress, he offered a report on the Nicaraguan elections. No need, Mrs Thatcher interrupted, we know all about that. "Humiliating defeat for the Kinnocks," she added, allowing herself the briefest of glances before passing on to the next business.

BARRY FANTONI



"By my reckoning, that makes him the 39th."

I knew immediately it would lead to trouble. Last week, Labour MP Joe Ashton wrote a funny piece in Westminster's House Magazine about his "exploitation" of his secretary. She is, he said, on call from eight in the morning until eleven at night and even works Sunday mornings, taking dictation. She deals with half of his constituency case work, which voters in Bassetlaw have discovered she can do more quickly and efficiently than their elected representative. This paragon of virtue is none other than Ashton's wife, Maggie. But the article has produced a feminist response. Linda McDougall, writing in the latest issue of the magazine, says "We want more women in the House. Joe Ashton should resign immediately and let Mrs Ashton have a chance at the job she could obviously do so much better than him."

● Peter Walker could stay on as Welsh Secretary and still have more time with his family. The Welsh Office, as he told MPs on Monday, has just introduced a holiday play scheme for children of staff.

At a press conference yesterday, Labour environment spokesman David Blunkett read out a list of Conservative authorities that have breached government targets for the poll tax. As he got to Windsor and Maidenhead (which has overshot by £160), he described the falling out among ensouled Thatchers over the poll tax as "dog eat dog". At that very moment his guide dog, Olla, decided to vomit all over the carpet. What can it mean?

As a doting father I insist that my children hone their infant intelligence on the wheastone of Experience. Only thus will they come by Knowledge, so important to their Prospects. They will then grow up to become Clever People who vent their opinions in a hectoring tone in Restaurants. That is their Fate. I will have done my duty. All experience is grist to this mill. I know nothing about animals, but I am anxious about my offspring should their names, for example, and whether they are extinct, endangered or just bad eating. Besides, as every father knows, close encounters with furred creatures bring on the clammy palms of childhood awe. "Thank you Daddy," says true childhood awe. "For giving me this unbelievably educative and yet at the same time thrilling experience." Shucks! Its what Daddies are Daddies for. Nothing can beat

Teaching has never been well-paid. The rewards it offers are of a different kind; take those rewards away and you have a major supply and quality problem. There is growing evidence of declining morale in the profession. Primary education is still attracting excellent candidates, though too few have a background in mathematics, science or technology. On the secondary side the picture is less favourable, especially in the "shortage" subjects. In 1989 insufficient recruits were forthcoming and the universities produced 100 fewer mathematics and 80 fewer physics teachers than in 1988.

Registrations for entry next September for mathematics teacher training are running below last year's level at this time and amount to less than half the number of places available. Science as a whole has only 1,000 applications for the 1,800 places available. Clearly the job is not sufficiently attractive. We must also remember that in the future the mathematics graduate inclined to teach will not only have to reject the golden hello from accountancy firms, but also take out a student loan for the privilege of being trained for the teaching profession.

Alec Ross urges John MacGregor to share his responsibilities

## Give the teachers a voice

The Government has accepted Lord Chilver's report on teachers' pay and, though this may well offer some relief, can never match what industry will pay for a shortage-subject graduate. We can, however, seek to repair the damage done to teaching in recent years by restoring to it some of those features which used to make it a more attractive profession. The problem goes far beyond pay; it is one of morale and job satisfaction. It is not that the teachers do not support the Government's reforms; indeed, as Lord Chilver pointed out, it is because they want these reforms to succeed that they are depressed by the way they are being implemented.

In his visits to schools Lord Chilver noted that "too many teachers feel that their efforts are undervalued by the Government, their employers, parents and society." Last month's report from the Senior Chief Inspector made the same point. He felt that there "was a risk that the implementation of the national curriculum and its related assessment and reporting may undermine teachers' job satisfaction and morale... Too much prescription and too detailed an external scrutiny of the work of teachers will lead to impossible work-loads, bureaucratic inflexibility and a de-skilled teaching force."

We are beginning to pay the price for undermining the status of the teaching profession. On the unions' side the damage was to some extent self-inflicted, since their strike action led to the Teachers' Pay and Conditions Act 1987 which took away all negotiating rights. On the professional side the teachers were offered a General Teaching Council in 1970 but the unions could not agree on its form. Instead there were in the 1970s and early 1980s advisory councils with teacher members nominated by the unions and similar

associations. Such representative bodies came, however, to be disparaged since they were replaced by bodies consisting of government nominees working to criteria set by the Secretary of State. We thus have a command structure in which the *nomenklatura* consists of officials, hired executives and nominated individuals of the approved persuasion. Teachers no longer have any sense of being able to shape their own profession. Management styles appropriate to small industries have been misapplied to a great public service. Teachers are regarded not as professionals to be consulted but as trade unionists to be deflected or a workforce to be managed.

Perhaps, from the professional point of view, the most counterproductive of the new enactments was the requirement that all teachers' activities be scheduled up to a maximum of 1,265 hours per annum of "directed time". Many teachers found it insulting that they should be clocked on and off like blue-collar workers. As a result, Saturday morning games and many a school play promptly disappeared. There are sound arguments for separating the work and concerns of unions from those of professional bodies, but these do not justify dispensing with the latter, which should set and maintain standards. There are, of course, matters for which the Secretary of State has a statutory duty, such as entry and dismissal from the profession. But he has too many of these responsibilities because there has never been a professional body to undertake them. Today's professional bodies should not be monopolistic cartels, and teachers are the first to call for representation of the general public interest on any teaching council that might be created. There are matters upon which a council could advise (supply of teachers) and others which it could determine (professional misconduct). All this would only be possible, however, if a Secretary of State were willing to share some of his considerable powers. Meanwhile the descent to the ludicrous 1,265 hours is far too easy without a professional body to curb the wildest fantasies of the incompetently informed.

The most important task, however, is to make the teaching profession attractive to new recruits again. John MacGregor must rehabilitate the profession as a profession. In the public services, quality is determined not by statutory orders but by what the professional does at the delivery point of the service. We must restore to this sadly abused profession the recognition it once had. Mr MacGregor should establish a forum in which the idea of a General Teaching Council could be discussed; a proposal for such a council, drawn up by a group of 17 teacher associations, is already on his desk.

The author is Academic Secretary of the Universities Council for the Education of Teachers.

Mary Dejevsky believes Sunday's elections may have sown the seeds of future conflict

## Russians versus Kremlin?

Moscow Sunday's elections in three of the Soviet Union's biggest republics could easily be dismissed as just another exercise in pseudo-democracy designed to keep the Communist Party in power. Not only were nearly 80 per cent of candidates party members, but most of the operation has to be repeated in 10 days' time because so few seats were decided.

What happened on Sunday, however, should not lightly be dismissed. The strong reformist showing in the preliminary results from the Russian Federation — by far the most populous republic in the Soviet Union — is evidence that traditional political alignments are changing. Soviet voters have become more sophisticated. Taken together with current shifts in the political structure — from Communist Party to state power and from the centre to the republics — this realignment may transform the nature of political power in Moscow. Last April, the Soviet Union's first multi-candidate elections (for the Congress of People's Deputies) became a protest against the all-embracing power of the party. Nearly a year later the element of protest is still there: any candidate who admitted to being a full-time party apparatchik was at a great disadvantage. But voters have become more discriminating. They are just as certain about what they do not want — more of the same old collectivist jargon daily contradicted by elitist prac-

tice — but they are now starting to think about what they might want instead. Amid antique rhetoric and Utopian hopes, the outlines of a multi-party Soviet Union are emerging. They are difficult to discern merely from a scrutiny of the candidates standing for the Russian Federation's parliament. Apart from the preponderance of Communist Party members, most candidates agreed on the general need for reform, and all pledged to work for a combination of ends they could not possibly deliver: zero inflation, full employment, the continuation of co-operative enterprises (but only within certain limits), and decent supplies of food and consumer goods. For the first time, however, candidates divided into policy blocs which could be perceived by voters as representing the right, left and centre of a distinct political spectrum. To the right of centre (in the Soviet definition) was a bloc calling itself the Social Patriotic Movement, tending to traditional attitudes with a reform element added; to the left of centre was the bloc for a Democratic Russia calling for faster reforms and more democratic institutions. In the centre were those who identified themselves with neither bloc but might reasonably have called themselves Gorbachevites. Extremes of opinion were barely represented. Those on the extreme right (Russian nationalists) chose in most cases not to identify themselves; candidates who did received barely 10 per cent of the vote. The extreme left



either failed to have its nominations accepted or boycotted the elections. The choice available to the voters therefore was far more centrist in complexion than it would have been had all groups, and not just those officially registered, been allowed to nominate candidates. One bloc, the "left of centre" Democratic Russia, transcended the issue of party membership. Claiming to unite the inner-party radicalism of Boris Yeltsin with the uncompromising democratic spirit of Dr Andrei Sakharov, it comprised party and non-party candidates. It has long been an oversimplification to regard membership or non-membership of the Communist Party as the single indicator of an individual's political position. As the ideological content of party membership has declined and

the careerist aspect has increased, party membership has become more like membership of the established church in an earlier England: a necessary accompaniment for anyone aspiring to power, and testimony less to an individual's beliefs than to his standing as a public-spirited and socially responsible member of society. A month ago, political divisions within the party came out into the open with the inauguration of the Democratic Platform group. One critic described it as Leninism without Lenin, another as social democracy by another name. The emerging alignment, however, reflects precisely the right-left blocs competing on Sunday. Traditional communists defend the party's right to compete for, if not their entitlement to, the leading role in society; the Democratic Platform believes the Communist Party has no

special role and should be like any other party. Traditionalists want a version of inner-party discipline, a version — modernized, if necessary — of democratic centralism. The Democratic Platform wants inner-party democracy with the right to form organized factions and protection for the rights and opinions of minorities. The new alignment is now manifest in almost every aspect of Soviet politics. Party members adhering to the Democratic Platform were, by and large, backed by the parliamentary candidates' bloc for a Democratic Russia — as were many non-party candidates. The same people tended also to be supporters or members of Yeltsin's radical Inter-Regional Group of Supreme Soviet deputies, where the same right-left split emerged nearly a year ago. The Democratic Russia bloc has opponents among party

traditionalists and among ordinary people whose ancestors shed blood for the revolution and who see market economics as the beginning of cut-throat economic competition, with riches for the few and penury for the many. These people favour the Social-Patriotic Movement, with a few splintering to the extreme "right". Already, the Soviet Union has new political parties in the making.

In the new Russian Federation parliament, the bloc allegiances on which the elections were partially fought are likely to play a more significant role than in the federal Supreme Soviet, which was elected a year earlier. At the same time, because of the shift of power from the centre to the republics, the Russian Federation parliament is likely to have more power and more influence than its ineffectual predecessor. If, as seems probable, the new Russian Federation parliament is significantly more reformist in composition than the federal Supreme Soviet, then the two bodies could be on collision course.

Anywhere else in the Soviet Union, such a distinction might be considered no more than a healthy expression of regional differences. In the Russian Federation, which has more than a third of the country's population and a large part of its natural resources — and its capital is also the seat of federal government — this difference spells conflict, or a new paralysis of power.

Just as Mr Gorbachev is moving, with his plans for an executive presidency, to end the current paralysis at the top and to ensure a shift of power from the party apparatus to the state (eventually, perhaps, to the federal elected parliament), the parliament in the biggest and crucial republic is changing its composition and its role, and it too will have its own executive president. In a year's time or even sooner, Moscow could see the battle of two presidents for control of what remains of the Soviet Union.

## Self-denigration that could be self-fulfilling

Peter Stothard reports on America's feeling of inferiority to Japan

Bath County, Virginia Washingtonians love to talk about their weakening international influence, and to contrast their countrymen's inadequacies with the wisdom of the Czechs, the weightiness of the Poles, the glamour of the Gorbachevites and, of course, the superiority of the Japanese.

Jobs in national denigration have been booming since the victory in the Cold War. The television networks have an insatiable appetite for gloom, even though audiences have not. When pundits wish to refresh themselves after the daily urban grind, they like nothing more than out-of-town meetings with other Washingtonians; and one of their favourite destinations is here in Bath County, a place whose name and principal business are borrowed from the English spa. There could be no more appropriate place for a navel-gazer. These waters have soothing

temperaments as different as those of Thomas Jefferson and Lyndon Johnson. Presidents Woodrow Wilson and Eisenhower, even Warren Harding and Richard Nixon, were water-tasters. Each had troubles by the side of which those of 1990 should seem slight, yet to listen to the worries of Washingtonians at rest here, one would think that the end of American civilization was nigh.

The weekend talks between President Bush and Toshiki Kaifu, prime minister of Japan — at the rather less contemplative resort of Palm Springs, California — have inspired the media to another round of depressing analysis about how the US is responsible for its own decline. Although there is still much technical jaw-jawing about trade barriers and protectionist retaliation, much the more fashionable arguments are about how the American education system

is "inferior, how money-in-the-bank has become a sick joke, and how the single-parent-multiple-drug-using family has become the national norm. This sense of inadequacy among the Washington political classes is one of Japan's most successful exports. The set text is a tract co-authored by Akio Mochizuki, founder of Sony, and allowed to circulate in America only in an unofficial (and therefore all the more attractive) photocopied form. It accuses the US of national laziness and myopia, leading to a future in which "you may never catch up with us".

The message may be sinking in. A recent opinion poll suggested that almost half the American people believe their economy is smaller than that of Japan. I tested this extraordinary thesis on a dozen assorted Washingtonians. In my amateur

sample, seven said that Japan, whose purchasing power is about a third that of the US, was the bigger national business. When asked which had the more productive citizens, only two of my 12 backed their fellow countrymen. When told that their own average annual productivity is a third higher than that of their competitors in Japan, they looked at me as though I were mad. Fortunately, in Bath County, I had the chance to put the same questions to people who live in an area which for years resisted the automobile and which still has no traffic lights. Here, only one in 11 respondents said that Japan was the larger economy, and only three said its workers were more productive.

It may be tempting to characterize these answers as rural complacency. This is a place of avowedly feudal character, where the standards of service

which once attracted Mrs Vanderbilt have not been lowered to match less stringent demands.

The workers here know something directly of the Japanese, whose enthusiasm for golf has put them at the top of the list of foreign visitors to the Homestead spa, the principal local employer. At least half the staff are sons and daughters of those who worked here when 363 Japanese diplomats in the US were interned at the Homestead after the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbour.

But the essential difference between the attitudes of Bath and Washington today is not their different perceptions of Japan; it is that Bath does not feel the need to be on the leading edge of fashion.

There is concern here about future trends, particularly about the lack of investment in education. Daniel Ingalls Jr, the fourth generation of his railroad-

owning family to run the Homestead resort, is eloquent about the American failure to spend money on the mind of the future. But he does not share the metropolitan illusion that the battle has already been lost.

To some Washingtonians — even those who lap up its delights — Bath County is a symbol of an awful future. Its economic mainstays — a high-employing hotel complex and a highly profitable but low-employing hydro-electricity plant — were described to me as a model of how Britain (and America) might end up if we failed to reform in the face of the eastern threat.

President Bush, whether dealing with Mr Kaifu, Mr Gorbachev, Mr Walesa, or Mr Havel, makes the country feel that affairs are safely under control. But he does not have the language to communicate to Americans the still very great power of their still very great country. That may yet be a very grave lack.

## First catch your monkey



GRIFF RHYNS JONES

"Splash!" said Catherine, pointing to where the rock went. At night the stars above the boat were almost as good as a planetarium. Like the engine of my car, the heavens are some-

thing I rarely examine in detail. They bring on the same queasy fear of the unknown.

"Look, there," said Lars the skipper between mouthfuls of salmon dip, "a satellite." And there it was, a pinpoint of light piercing the bowl of the night. "You don't see them often," said Lars.

In the next half hour we saw five. "George!" I shouted. George left his homework and gazed up into the sky. Five minutes passed. Then there were no more. No planes, no strange whirling lights, no shooting stars, certainly no satellites. "Er, I think that's the belt of Orion," I said after a while. George looked at the salmon dip.

"Lars!" I continued. "Is that The Plough?" But Lars was no help. The modern skipper navigates by satellite, apparently.

There are 36,000 wild monkeys on St Kitts. While we were there, 35,999 of them stayed in bed. Only Lars was with me when the taxi-driver spotted the island's one non-agoraphobic primate.

"See?" said the driver. "Oh yeah," said Lars. "Where?" I said. "By the telegraph pole!" I made an encouraging noise. "He's on that brush wood!" "Yes," I smiled, wanting Lars and the taxi-driver to know it was as good for me as it was for them.

I went back later, determined to see a wild monkey in its natural habitat of old oil-drums and heaps of grit or, at least, determined that my children should. As we approached, the monkey saw us coming. Faster than a land-crab chasing a flying-fish, he scurried away like a satellite. For a fleeting instant I glimpsed his grey bottom. "There!" I hollered. I jumped up and down for emphasis. "Did you see him?" They missed him. As we walked back, they sang a tuneless song. "The monkey's gone away hay, away hay, away hay." There were extra verses about the death of elephants, giraffes and flying-fish. I said nothing. It is obvious that despite my best endeavours, my children will not grow up Clever. They will end up Knowing, which is quite a different thing. As I'm sure all fathers will agree.





1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

## THE PRICE OF UNITY

Having damaged his own and his country's good name by his mishandling of the German-Polish border question, Chancellor Kohl has for the moment yielded to wiser counsel from inside his party. A compromise emerged yesterday from Bonn's smoke-filled rooms, just in time for tomorrow's debate in the Bundestag on a proposed joint parliamentary declaration.

This was a defeat, but not a rout, for Herr Kohl. He had, of course, imposed provocative conditions for signing a future treaty in which a united Germany would confirm in perpetuity the Oder-Neisse border. The Poles were irritated by Herr Kohl's presumption that he was entitled to demand concessions, however reasonable, in return for a promise to respect Poland's territorial integrity which Warsaw regards as long overdue. West German appeals to the judgements of the supreme court in Karlsruhe only fuelled Polish fears.

By what Mr Mazowiecki called his "ambiguities and insinuations", Herr Kohl has induced the Polish Government to echo the anti-German attitudes exploited so cynically by its communist predecessors. Few Poles will now believe that yesterday's tactical retreat was a genuine change of heart by the Chancellor.

As reunification approaches, the Federal Republic is bound to find itself saddled with the consequences of the arrogant policies of successive East German leaders, who allowed relations with Poland to deteriorate to the point in summer 1981 when the *Volksarmee* stood ready to help Brezhnev to invade Poland. Hostility towards Polish pedlars in East Germany and Polish immigrants of German extraction in West Germany has aroused dormant fears of former overlords in Poland itself. The Modrow Government has used Polish migrants as scapegoats for its own disappointing economic performance.

The decline in popularity of extreme German nationalist parties in the West last month shows that Herr Kohl's tough line with Poland was achieving its object. Anti-Polish sentiment may remain a powerful political

factor in a reunited Germany, above all in the poorer regions of the East. His Social Democrat challenger, Herr Lafontaine, has played the same game by agitating against immigration from Poland. But with Herr Willy Brandt — the man who knelt in silent prayer at the Warsaw ghetto two decades ago — now effectively leading the Social Democrats' election campaign, the SPD can present itself abroad as the party of reconciliation.

To remain a friend of Warsaw, yet at the same time to embark on a diplomatic offensive designed to secure a revision of an imposed post-war settlement, was a task which proved beyond the considerable powers of Gustav Stresemann, the Weimar Republic's only statesman. Though playing a very much stronger hand than Stresemann, Herr Kohl has so far failed to win a trick.

He has a potential saviour: President Richard von Weizsäcker. In 1987 the President rescued his Chancellor from the disastrous diplomatic consequences of comparing Mr Gorbachev to Dr Goebbels. As a young officer, Herr von Weizsäcker fought in the Polish campaign; his father was then state secretary at Ribbentrop's Foreign Ministry. With such a background, to be guided by conscience in one's dealings with Poland is more than prudent: it is imperative.

The President ought to have been dispatched to Warsaw long ago to smooth the path to reunification. That he was not sent last September was due to the same "steel helmet" lobby which has now landed the Chancellor in trouble. It is not yet too late.

Tone-deaf to diplomatic harmonies as he is, Helmut Kohl was never likely to resolve the discord between Bonn and Warsaw over the border. Yet his duty to his country demands nothing less. As the Polish novelist, Andrzej Szczypiorski, commented yesterday: "The final recognition of the Oder-Neisse border by the German people will quite simply be the end of the great war which Hitler and Stalin unleashed against democracy, against Europe and the world."

## UNESCO UNREPENTANT

When Señor Federico Mayor was elected Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in 1987, he promised "drastic reforms". He pledged himself to move Unesco away from the politics of confrontation, to concentrate its activities on a few key objectives, and to streamline a secretariat which he likened to "a dinosaur with an enormous body and a stunted brain". He appealed to Britain and the United States to rejoin.

The British Government, which left Unesco in 1985, has consistently maintained that promises were not enough, and that it would only review its position when it knew the content of Unesco's new programmes, the shape of Señor Mayor's management reforms, and had evidence that Unesco's members were ready to set aside political controversy. The wisdom of that stance has been amply borne out, since the promises have not been kept.

The new programme adopted last November by Unesco's General Conference remains scatter-shot and unfocused. On the issue which was central to the British and American withdrawals, Unesco's promotion of a "new world information order" which served to justify state intervention in the flow of news, the outcome was ambiguous.

Señor Mayor himself, while stressing his personal commitment to "the free and uninhibited flow of information", acknowledged that everything depended on how the secretariat interpreted its mandate. On Monday, he announced the appointment of a new assistant director-general for communications: Mr H. Yushkivich, the deputy director-general of the Soviet State Commission for Radio and Television. For good measure, he has expanded the department's responsibilities to include data-processing and informatics.

Señor Mayor could have taken no step more calculated to alarm than the appointment of a Soviet national to this ultra-sensitive post. It is a betrayal of his own repeated commitments, and of those who have worked with Unesco to return it to its constitutional duty of promoting the "free flow of ideas". The appointment was announced as part of Señor Mayor's long-delayed strategy for restructuring the overstuffed secretariat — which, he told Mr Timothy Sainsbury, the British minister responsible, only last week, would cut staff levels by more than a third.

The blueprint published on Monday instead creates 24 new senior management posts (at a cost of \$5 million and without consulting Unesco's Executive Board, as required by regulations). It promotes a further 18 staff to executive level, contrary to the advice of independent consultants who found Unesco to be extremely top-heavy. Señor Mayor has retained the senior adjuncts of his predecessor, leaving the culture portfolio with M Henri Lopes, a Congolese politician responsible in 1973 for organizing show-trials and executions. Another M Bow appointee heads a new unit to promote co-operation with "Palestine".

The promised staff reductions lie in the future and, as they are to be achieved by wastage, the target is unlikely to be met by November next year, as proposed. Meantime, contracts will be renewed only for six-month periods, a decision calculated to create maximum uncertainty among the staff.

Señor Mayor faces, at last, serious opposition. The Japanese, the largest contributors to Unesco's budget, are considering withholding payments until an emergency session of the executive board is convened. The United States, in despair of reform, may withdraw its observer mission.

Mr Sainsbury expressed his concern yesterday to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Commons, which is soon to report on Unesco. A decision is expected next month on the Government's policy review. Señor Mayor, it is now clear, has wasted what was a golden opportunity to rebuild Unesco. In these circumstances, there should be no question of a British return.

## THE BLUE PETER CURRICULUM

The Adam Smith Institute, limbering up for its patron's bicentenary celebrations later this year, has just loosed off a broadside against the theory and practice of "progressive" teacher-education. Its author is Mr Dennis O'Keefe, who is Senior Lecturer in Education at the Polytechnic of North London, an establishment not best known as a hotbed of the New Right.

He says that he has written a monograph, but that is to state the matter with undue modesty. *The Wayward Elite* may have a bibliography in which Althusser rubs shoulders with Schumpeter and R. Duelli Klein, but that will fool nobody. Not for nothing does a sentence of his fellow-countryman, Edmund Burke, stand at the head of the text. Mr O'Keefe is a political pamphleteer, and an accomplished one.

One of his prime targets is the "workshop mode" of primary teacher preparation — the ambience of which he finds "part catechistic, part early Dr Spock". He detects in it two main ideological components. The first he calls the "Blue Peter Curriculum", where relaxation and informality are fronts for a relentless pursuit of triviality. "The emphasis is on levity. The painting of toilet-roll cores, montages of coloured paper, art displays from the teaching practice front, whose only merit is that young untutored children produced them."

He is equally underwhelmed by the "DIY Pedagogy", which he sees as the legacy of Rousseau and Dewey and the real motor of educational disruption. "The rules are governed by a developmental thesis of play, real interest and readiness, whose outcomes are opaque to most parents and children". In Mr O'Keefe's view, progressive education has

been sustained by a blend of romanticism, anti-intellectualism and evangelical fantasy. "Our society has been partly undermined by the belief that childhood is more important than knowledge and equality more significant than excellence".

None of this disposes Mr O'Keefe to think particularly highly of the present Government's educational reforms. "While the Thatcher medicine has proved itself in other areas, in education we are getting a further dose of educational corporatism". He sees the combination of a centralized national curriculum and an examining monopoly at 16-plus for the GCSE as "evidence of an unrecalcitrant dirigisme".

Mr O'Keefe reproves the Government for its apparent lack of faith in market-based remedies for our educational ills, and lets his mind range heuristically over a wide range of possibility. "What would this activity be like if it were consumer-led and privately financed? What would schools be like if they were not compulsory? What, apart from mere habit, confines so much education to private finance?"

Apart from his general belief in the reforming superiority of markets, he makes a number of specific proposals. He would, for instance, like to see an independent Council for Education — a non-party body whose members would be elected for distinguished activity in their various subjects and which would act as a kind of watchdog of the nation's intellectual life.

Mr O'Keefe's detailed suggestions are less interesting than the broad thrust of his argument. He has, for all that, written a robust and readable polemic in an area all too often characterized by turgidity.

## Coming to terms with the poll tax

From Sir Gilbert Longden

Sir, In his list of factors working against the Government I think Lord Wyatt (February 27) grievously underestimates the effect which the community charge is going to have on the voter, and I can't feel sure that the Government and their advisers are aware of the revulsion felt in all walks of life, urban and rural, for this charge.

While it is wrong that so many should have hitherto escaped liability for contributing anything at all to the cost of local services, the community charge is going to result in far too many people who can't afford it paying far more than their fair share.

I believe the problem could be solved by transferring the whole cost of education on to the Exchequer, where it should properly belong, a move which has often been advocated but always rejected for what I consider inconclusive reasons. Education is essentially a national responsibility, and the State should maintain the nation's schools and pay the salaries of the teaching profession, just as it maintains the hospitals and pays the salaries of the nursing and medical professions.

If this means increasing income tax, the additional burden would at least be related to income and capacity to pay, and the local authorities would be left with what is properly their function and would need to levy a much reduced charge on their electorate and industry and small businesses would be relieved of what may prove in many cases an insupportable burden.

I share Lord Wyatt's optimism regarding the other factors which are now "working against the Government", but not this one. Even now it is not too late to correct what is, I believe, a sad misjudgment.

Yours sincerely,  
GILBERT LONGDEN,  
89 Cornwall Gardens, SW7,  
February 28.

From Mr Bernard Cunningham  
Sir, I agree with Mr Sidney Sugarman (March 1) that the rating system was unjust and something had to be done about it. The introduction of the poll tax, however, was not the answer.

Mr Sugarman hypothesizes about an excessive burden on the poor and worse off. I can assure him that here in Glasgow that burden is not hypothetical but very real.

Mr Sugarman should not confuse relief and allowances from income tax, which are determined

before assessment, and "appropriate consideration and relief" from poll tax, which are determined after assessment.

The poll tax is morally wrong, not because of its consequences described by Mr Sugarman, viz, bringing into the area of fiscal responsibility those who have not previously paid for the community benefits, but because of its intrinsic unfairness.

In Glasgow, I, a lawyer living in a residential area of the city, pay the same poll tax as the lady who cleans my office and who lives in a large depressed housing estate in another area of the city.

Why can we not introduce a local income tax as our European partners have done?  
Yours truly,  
BERNARD CUNNINGHAM,  
1 Dolphin Road,  
Fallowfield,  
Glasgow,  
March 1.

From Mr T. H. F. Entwistle  
Sir, May I refer briefly to another anomaly of the poll tax which has not received any publicity.

Under the existing rating system a rebate is allowed by valuation officers to partly defray the costs of those who live in unadapted, unmade-up lanes or roads. They receive no personal benefit on the rates in the form of road-surfacing, footpaths, lighting, or drainage.

Presumably, this is to be forgotten, adding a further turn of the screw when the community charge is imposed.

Yours faithfully,  
T. H. F. ENTWISTLE,  
The Little Orchard,  
Castle Road,  
Woking, Surrey,  
February 27.

From Mr K. F. Beavis  
Sir, Mr Abbott (February 27) should think himself lucky — at least he could live in his mother's house if he wanted to.

My widowed mother, who died in October, 1988, owned a sheltered wardens-assisted flat which is subject to the usual covenant that it must not be occupied by a person under 55 years of age.

The flat has been stuck in the property slump for 16 months, and it seems that I will have to pay double community charge for the "luxury" of having a second property which I do not want and which I am legally unable to occupy.

Yours faithfully,  
K. F. BEAVIS,  
Warren Grove,  
Woodham Walter Common,  
Maldon, Essex,  
February 28.

## Testing estate agents

From the Chief Executive of the Consumers' Association  
Sir, We were delighted to see your leader (March 2) supporting the *Which?* report on estate agents. But I must defend our research methods against the "nose-wringing" brigade whom you suggest might not like our use of actors.

We had the willing co-operation of real sellers and they, of course, knew we were using actors to test the estate agents' ways of handling the sales. How else could we test what was really going on? Until more estate agents themselves undertake this kind of monitoring it's difficult even for them to find out how the public are treated.

I might add that *The Times* reported (February 26) that the new Press Council code of practice is expected to concede that "subterfuge" can be used to obtain material which ought to be published in the public interest and could not be obtained by other means. We might see radical improvements in our hospitals if a few consultants and administrators attended outpatients' clinics!

Two things are urgently needed: independent monitoring and public reporting of agents' performances across the country, and stronger enforcement of disclosure of an agent's interest in the advice and information they are giving both seller and buyer.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN BEISHON,  
Chief Executive,  
Consumers' Association,  
2 Marylebone Road, NW1,  
March 2.

## Parent power

From Mrs Valerie Davey  
Sir, I feel it is important to challenge some of the prejudicial assumptions contained in your leader of February 26, headed "Challenge to parent power".

Avon went to the High Court to seek a judicial review of the secretary of state's decision. The facts of the matter are that the secretary of state failed to properly consider the county's plan for reorganising secondary education in Bath against the mutually contradictory plan to allow one school, Beechen Cliff, to opt out.

Avon acted in the interests of all the parents and pupils and would reject your implication that the other schools were not as good as Beechen Cliff. This is not a matter of limiting parental choice, but rather a case where the county was defending freedom of choice, and the clearly expressed view of the majority of parents. Mr Justice Hutchison recognised this fact.

Yours faithfully,  
VALERIE DAVEY  
(Labour spokeswoman,  
Avon Education Committee),  
29 Norton Road,  
Kewville, Bristol, Avon,  
February 27.

## Service mistreatment

From Mr Jack Ashley, CH, MP for Stoke-on-Trent South (Labour)  
Sir, Dr Alan Porter said in his letter (March 1) that it was unacceptable that service instructors would mistreat servicemen if they were informed about prevention, recognition and first aid for heat illness, and if they had received clear orders about how to react to a collapse.

I am highly critical of the Ministry of Defence but not for this reason. Action has been taken to inform and warn all three Services about heatstroke and heat exhaustion. In the Lt Simon Rowland case, the Secretary of State for Defence told me in a letter of September 13, 1989, that

the 1988 Defence Council instruction on heatstroke was "read to course members (including Sub Lt Rowland) by their instructor".

The cause for concern is the Ministry of Defence's failure to enforce its regulations by strong disciplinary action. Incredibly, after 663 injuries and 12 deaths during the last 10 years the ministry has admitted there was not one single disciplinary action. If automatic disciplinary action was taken when avoidable serious injury or death occurred from heatstroke or heat exhaustion there would be a dramatic fall in these tragic cases.

Yours faithfully,  
JACK ASHLEY,  
House of Commons,  
March 2.

## Pennies from heaven

From Mr W. J. Findlay  
Sir, Old age brings little but disillusionment. Each year, as a child, on crossing the Forth Bridge en route to St Andrews on holiday, I observed the custom of throwing a penny out of the carriage window in the belief that I was propitiating the gods.

Seventy years later, I learn from your fascinating article on the bridge (February 24) that these offerings were appropriated by the trackmen for beer money. I have been mulling people drinks all my adult life, but realise only now that I had started the amiable practice so young.

Yours sincerely,  
W. J. FINDLAY,  
40 Uplands Way, N21.

From the General Secretary of the Society of Education Officers  
Sir, How do you reconcile your acceptance in your leading article, that the "problem is that large-scale reorganisation of educational facilities has become essential" because of "a surplus of 1.25 million places in schools in England" with your assertion that "parental choice ought to be the dominant factor in the survival of a school"?

Secondly, will you advise the secretary of state to decide whether he really wants local education authorities to dispose of surplus school accommodation and, if so, to make simple and logical rules and allow authorities to get on with it?

Otherwise he, and you, should leave it entirely to parents to decide whether two schools shall remain open where only one is needed to accommodate the pupil numbers and he, and you, should then accept that there may be continuing expenditure on empty places and put the blame where it belongs.

Yours faithfully,  
DENNIS HATFIELD,  
General Secretary,  
Society of Education Officers,  
21-27 Lamba Conduit Street WC1,  
February 25.

## Legal rights of genetic parents

From Mr J. G. Hogg

Sir, Mr Forrest (February 28) seems to me to misstate the effect of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill. He refers to clause 26 of the Bill as excluding the rights of the genetic mother but allowing her husband, as genetic father, to apply for recognition of his position as legal father of the child.

Under clause 27, when the host surrogate mother is married, the genetic "father" is precluded from applying for recognition as the legal father. Thus, where a birth results from embryo implantation and the host surrogate mother's husband consents to the implantation, it is he, not the genetic "father" who will, when the Bill is enacted, be the legal father. The position of both genetic "parents" will be the same.

I suggest that rather than fly in the face of "present genetic knowledge and medical technology" the proposed defunctious provide an essential safeguard against the so-called "rent-a-womb" practice that might easily arise if the definition were otherwise. By ensuring that the legal rights are vested in the host mother and her husband there can never be any certainty that the child would ultimately be handed over after it was born. This would have the effect of making any such arrangements unenforceable and would discourage money-changing hands.

In addition the effect of the proposals will ensure that there is and can be only one set of parents for the child. This will prevent the fragmentation of parental rights that would otherwise arise if it allowed for more than one set of persons to have some parental rights.

Clearly it is important that the law should provide a child with this degree of certainty in these days it is indeed a wise child that knows its own father.

Yours faithfully,  
J. G. HOGG,  
24 Mill Hill Close,  
Brompton,  
Northampton,  
North Yorkshire,  
March 1.

From Mrs N. A. Scarisbrick  
Sir, Either the embryology Bill continues the legal lie that the donors of gametes in IVF (*in vitro* fertilisation) are not the genetic parents or we have to legislate that gamete donors are recognised as the genetic parents and their identity made known to the children born as a result of their donation. We can't have it all ways.

Yours faithfully,  
N. A. SCARISBRICK,  
Newbold Terrace,  
Leamington Spa,  
Warwickshire,  
March 2.

From Mr Adrian Desmond  
Sir, As someone who works closely with victim support groups I am disturbed by the Labour Party's attempt (report, February 26) to introduce a "no-fault" clause into the NHS Bill allowing all medical-negligence victims to claim for compensation.

While seemingly well meant, the clause completely misses the point. Yes, it would give victims an automatic right to compensation, but at an unacceptable price. Patients rarely seek just financial recompense for the wrong done to them. They want an explanation of what happened, an assurance that it will not happen again, and — perhaps most important — an apology for the suffering forced upon them.

A "no-fault" scheme would be unacceptable to patients' organisations unless such accountability was made an integral part of the scheme.

Yours faithfully,  
ADRIAN DESMOND (Partner),  
Boyes Turner & Burrows  
(Solicitors),  
10 Duke Street,  
Reading, Berkshire.

## Edinburgh threat

From Professor Julia Chisham  
Sir, Nigel Andrews's excellent account of Edinburgh's Royal Mile (Review, February 24) describes how its mysterious little "wynds" and closes open between the buildings, and when a wider gap appears, startling vistas, half urban, half wild, open up above and below, and on either side.

Advocate's Close, opposite St Giles' Cathedral, is the most stunning of these closes and its spectacular view of the Scott Monument, Princes Street, Fife, and the sea is one of the most photographed in Edinburgh.

Those who love this city will be appalled to learn that there is a proposal to the district council to build a five-storey office block in the close which will destroy the famous view from the High Street. This act of gratuitous vandalism must be stopped. Objections can be made to the City Planning Department, Market Street, Edinburgh.

Yours faithfully,  
JULIE CHEETHAM,  
34 Danube Street, Edinburgh.

## Commons spectacle

From Mrs Norah Owen  
Sir, One of the things that has interested me since television has entered the House of Commons is the number of Conservative front-benchers who wear glasses.

Maybe myopia is endemic in ambitious Conservative men; or, perhaps, if you are not particularly striking in personality or appearance, a pair of spectacles (even plain glass) adds a certain gravitas?

Yours truly,  
NORAH OWEN,  
50 Bear Street, Colchester, Essex.

All parties involved in IVF by donor gametes and surrogacy ought to be compelled by law to be honest and tell the children so conceived the whole truth, perhaps on the birth certificate. At least the children will not then have the wretched knowledge that they have been deceived, though they may well need all the counselling envisaged in the embryology Bill to come to terms with their unusual conception.

It may well be that legally enforced honesty would drastically cut the supply of donor gametes and surrogate mothers — as anonymity seems to be the key to most of these arrangements. No harm would result.

Yours sincerely,  
NUALA SCARISBRICK  
(Honorary National Administrator),  
Newbold Terrace,  
Leamington Spa,  
Warwickshire,  
March 2.

From Mr G. G. Collins  
Sir, In August, 1984, you printed my letter proposing the term "womb-nurse" instead of surrogate mother for a woman who accepts another's fertilised ovum into her womb with the intention of bearing the child. May I repeat and amplify the proposal in view of the current controversy?

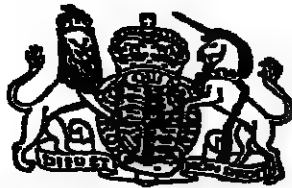
Clearly a womb-nurse has, like a wet-nurse, an intimate and honourable relationship with the infant, but both perform a strictly nursing function and neither can transmit hereditary characteristics to the child. Only the genetic parents can do so. To call a womb-nurse a surrogate mother is confusing, therefore, and unfair to the real, genetic, mother. Once this is understood, there should be less difficulty in defining the legal relationships.

There remains, what is more, a proper and necessary use of the term surrogate-mother: to describe a woman who allows her own ovum to be fertilised, with a view to handing over the child at a later stage, for adoption perhaps by the genetic father.

Legal questions arising from modern skills in implanting and fertilisation of humans and of animals will increase in number and complexity, hence the importance of precise nomenclature. Precise language leads to clear thought and so, one may hope, to just law.

Yours faithfully,  
G. G. COLLINS,  
Swallowfield Park,  
Reading, Berkshire,  
March 1.





## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
March 6: The Queen held an investiture this morning at Buckingham Palace.

Mr W. L. Cordner was received in audience by Her Majesty the Queen and his appointment as British High Commissioner to the Kingdom of Tonga.

The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her Majesty this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Member of the British Horse Society, attended a Horse Driving Trials Press Conference at the Royal Mews, Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness, Patron and Trustee, attended a Reception at St James's Palace for Young People who have reached the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, gave a lunch and chaired a meeting of the Trustees of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, at Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness, Grand Master, attended a Court Dinner of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators at the Merchant Taylors' Hall, London EC2.

The Duke of Edinburgh was received by the Right Hon Lord Mayor (Sir Hugh Bidwell), Captain Alistair Rogers, RM was in attendance.

The Lady Elton has succeeded Mrs John Douglas as Lady-in-Waiting to the Queen.

Today The Princess Royal visited Buckingham Palace and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Buckinghamshire (Commander the Hon John Freeman, RN).

Her Royal Highness, President, British Knitting and Clothing Export Council,

opened the Aquascutum factory, Milton Keynes.

Afterwards The Princess Royal, Patron, the Buxton Trust, visited the Aylesbury Young Offenders Institution, Birtan Road, Aylesbury.

Subsequently Her Royal Highness, President, Riding for the Disabled Association, visited the High Wycombe Group, Grove Equitation Centre, Wear Lane, High Wycombe.

In the evening The Princess Royal attended a dinner at a military career and attended the Royal Military College at Sandhurst, going on to be commissioned in the Royal Scots Greys.

He served in the war until 1944, mostly in the Middle East, and was mentioned in dispatches. He was invalided out of the army with infantile paralysis and entered the shipping industry with Clan Line.

After the war, Cayzer immersed himself further in the various strands of the family business, working for Union-Castle Mail Steamship Company, British & Commonwealth Shipping, Caledonia Investments, British United Airways and Overseas Containers.

His work took him from London all over the world, but principally to Liverpool, Greenock and South Africa, and he became a pillar of the shipping industry, in the last 40 years of his life.

However, Cayzer's interests gradually centred on the airline business. He was a qualified fixed-wing and helicopter pilot and a founder of the Air Squadron - the air equivalent

of the Royal Yacht Squadron, to which he also belonged.

In 1970 Cayzer was a moving force in the merger of British United with Caledonian Airways to form British Caledonian Airways.

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## THE HON ANTHONY CAYZER

### Challenging the State monopoly with British Caledonian



The Hon Anthony Cayzer, younger brother of Lord Rotherwick and a senior member of the Cayzer shipping and airline family, died on March 4, aged 69.

Michael Anthony Rathbone Cayzer was born on May 23, 1920, in common with three male children of the family, he was educated at Eton. Thereafter he chose a military career and attended the Royal Military College at Sandhurst, going on to be commissioned in the Royal Scots Greys.

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## OBITUARIES

### SIR STEUART MITCHELL

#### A quick-firing AA gun for the wartime Allies

Sir Steuart Mitchell, KBE, CB, who died at Stratford-upon-Avon, on March 4, aged 87, played a vital role during the Second World War in procuring manufacture of the Oerlikon quick-firing gun for this country and the United States. The 20mm version of the Oerlikon with its 1,000 rounds per minute firing rate, became one of the most widely used close-range anti-aircraft guns of the war.

Born in India on March 9, 1902, Seton Stuart Crichton Mitchell went into the Navy, where he specialised in gunnery. In April 1939 he was sent to supervise the manufacture of the Swiss quick-firing Oerlikon gun in Zürich. The significance of the gun had been recognized by Mountbatten, who had persistently lobbied for it from 1937. But by the fall of France in 1940 only 109 of the 1500 ordered had been delivered.

While undertaking the British contract, the Zürich factory was also making an aircraft version of the gun for the Luftwaffe, using German steel for both products.

By June 1940 Mitchell could see that no more Oerlikons could be sent from Switzerland. After an abortive attempt to escape by car through France on June 16, he returned to Zürich and set out again via the Balkans, Turkey, Palestine and Egypt, carrying detailed plans of the gun and three Foreign Office packs full of much needed jewel centres for aircraft instruments. In three weeks he was back at the Admiralty.

After playing a major part in setting up the Oerlikon's production under licence at

Ruislip, Mitchell was sent to the USA in October 1940 to organize an alternative source of supply, in case enemy action disrupted the factory in England. But the USA was still at peace and the manufacture of war materials was prohibited unless suitable for American forces.

Undaunted, Mitchell himself demonstrated the gun to the US Navy, and was rewarded by immediate orders. So important did the Oerlikon become, that in the fight-back after Pearl Harbour the Americans were fitting as many as 90 to one ship. By the end of the war, United States production had reached 1500 guns every 18 hours. Mitchell's efforts therefore had an important impact on the Battle of the Atlantic, and also on naval operations in the Far East.

Mitchell's subsequent career involved Guided Weapons, "Neddy" and British Railways Board. From 1959 to 1962, as Controller of Guided Weapons and Electronics in the Ministry of Supply, he was responsible for all research and development of guided weapons in Britain.

His next job, at British Railways, was very different. As Vice Chairman from 1962 to 1964, he was deputy to Dr. Beeching, whose three-year stewardship led to the closure of 5,000 miles of passenger track and 2,000 stations, and the loss of 70,000 jobs. Mitchell was a Member of the National Economic Development Council ("Neddy") from 1967 to 1970.

He leaves his widow, Elizabeth.

### HENRY RUBIN

Henry Rubin, who died on March 3, aged 82, was one of the last great antique dealers of his generation. His keen eye and knowledge enabled him to handle some of the most important furniture and works of art to come on the market over many decades.

Henry Walter Rubin was born in London, on February 15, 1908, and educated at Marlborough Grammar School, afterwards studying art at the Regent Street Polytechnic.

In 1929 he founded his gallery in the Follum Road with his late brother, Ernest. Such was his knowledge that few dealers from any part of the world would come to London without visiting him. Behind the external facade of the gallery lay an Aladdin's Cave of bookcases, tapestries and mirrors.

He served for 25 years as a councillor of the British Antique Dealers' Association, becoming its President in 1959. He was a life councillor and founder member of the Confederation of International Art Dealers (CINOA) and during the first of his two presidencies of that organization, he arranged the major

International Art Treasures Exhibition at the Victoria & Albert Museum in 1962.

The exhibition included loans, many which have found their way into permanent collections of museums, both here and abroad. In the foreword of the catalogue of the exhibition, Rubin expressed a philosophy which encapsulates his appreciation of the qualities of life: "The pleasure in owning beautiful things is doubled by sharing that pleasure with others and the belief that the universal appreciation of the rare and beautiful will attribute much to the sum total of human happiness."

He was widely respected in Britain and on the continent for his undoubted connoisseurship.

A year never went by without Rubin visiting furniture for the Antique Dealers' Fair at Grosvenor House.

Some years ago he became an active Council member of the Jewish Museum in Upper Woburn Place, London, which houses an important collection of Judaica.

He was a dealer of rare ability. He leaves his widow, Lily, and a son.

## MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JULIAN GASCOIGNE

### Imaginative stewardship of Bermuda in the Sixties

Major-General Sir Julian Gascoigne, KCVO, KCMG, CB, DSO, who was Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Bermuda from 1959 to 1964, died on February 26 at the age of 86.

During his military career he was GOC London District and Major-General Commanding the Household Brigade from 1950 to 1953.

Sir Julian Gascoigne's tenure at Government House in Bermuda saw the colony move towards official segregation, a process which he heartily endorsed.

He also oversaw the beginnings of what is now the islands' second industry, international off-shore business.

The Bermuda Gascoigne knew had virtually no party politics and the Governor was an active chief executive, not a mere figurehead.

A non-violent boycott of blacks of the colony's cinemas lasting four weeks proved a catalyst for racial integration when it ended with the owners agreeing that all races could share the same seating areas.

It had been Harold Macmillan, then the Prime Minister, who had instructed the new Governor to break down the colour barriers in accordance with the government's forward-looking policy symbolised by the "Winds of change" speech.

Gascoigne also entered energetically into Bermuda's way of social life, making a point of joining the black Blue Waters Angling Club as well as the white Royal Bermuda Yacht Club.

He was the first white man to go fishing with members of Blue Waters and during his five-year spell as Governor became a regular guest at the club.

Julian Alvery Gascoigne was born on October 25, 1903, the son of Brigadier General Sir Frederick and Lady Gascoigne and educated at Eton and Sandhurst. He was commissioned in the Grenadier Guards in 1923.

During the Second World War he first served as Commanding Officer of the 1st Bn Grenadier Guards and then commanded the 201st Guards Motor Brigade of the 7th Armoured Division in North Africa and was wounded in the Italian campaign.

He gained the DSO for leading the brigade during the assault on the Salerno beaches.

He was in Washington as deputy head of the British Joint Services Mission from 1947 to 1949 before taking up his London District command.

After retiring from the Army Gascoigne was a partner in a London Stock Exchange firm between 1955 and 1959, experience which was to prove of help to Bermuda after he became Governor there.

Between 1965 and 1975 Gascoigne was chairman of the Devon and Cornwall Committee of the National Trust, the first such regional committee to be set up. He was skilled at enlisting financial support and among the acquisitions during his chairmanship was Castle Drogo, the work of Lutyens.

Gascoigne also developed a keen interest in diving, exploring many of the wrecks which littered Bermuda's reef line, despite difficulties breathing caused by his war wound.

He last visited Bermuda for a three-week holiday as guest of the present Governor, Sir Desmond Langley, when aged 85. He still managed a few golf rounds as well as visiting the Blue Waters Angling Club.

In 1928 he married Joyce Newman, who died in 1981. They had one son and one daughter.

He had been Colonel Commandant, Honourable Artillery Company, from 1954 to 1959 and was a former President of the Union Jack Services Club.

While Governor in Bermuda Gascoigne was also able to pursue his sporting interests, particularly sailing and golf. In the Rhode Island to Bermuda race in 1960, Gascoigne was on board the yacht *Dorchester* which had to be rescued by the US Coastguard after losing a mast.

In the same year he captained a team in the World Amateur Championships for the Eisenhower Cup.

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### Birthdays today

Mr David Arturimot, racehorse trainer, 37; Sir Robert Atkinson, astronomer, British Shipbuilders, 74; Mr William Boyd, author, 58; Viscount, Countess, 60; Mr G.A. Cowley, former chairman, C.T. Bowring, 67;

Sir Kenneth Green, director, Manchester Polytechnic, 56; Mr J.O. Hambro, former president, Hambro, 71; Sir Anthony Lambert, diplomat, 79; Sir John Lacey, former High Court judge, 76; Mr Ivan Lendl, tennis player, 30; Lord Oliver of Aylmerton, 69; Mr Michael Oliver, racehorse trainer, 40; Sir Eduardo Paolozzi, sculptor, 66;

Dame Beryl Paston Brown, former principal, Homerton College, Cambridge, 81; Professor Sir David Phillips, molecular biophysicist, 66; Mr Piers Paul Read, author, 69; Mr Viv Richards, cricketer, 38; Mr Mark Rowland, writer and artist, founder of Yorkism, London, 1957; Stevie (Florence) Smith, poet, London, 1971.

DEATHS: Saint Thomas Aquinas, Dominican theologian, Fossanova, Italy, 1274; Jean-Pierre Blanchard, balloonist who made the first aerial crossing of the Channel, Paris, 1809; Othbert Collingwood, Lord Collingwood, admiral at sea, 1810; Aristide Briand, 11 times premier of France, Nobel peace laureate 1926, Paris, 1932; Percy Wyndham Lewis, writer and artist, founder of Vorticism, London, 1957; Stevie (Florence) Smith, poet, London, 1971.

University news  
Honorary degrees are to be conferred on the following:

DLit: Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord of Appeal in Ordinary,







## THE ARTS

## Ghastly snobbery

TELEVISION

Sheridan Morley

The ITV slot at 9pm on Tuesday has traditionally been reserved for snobbery with violence: shows like *Capital City* and *Making News* which seem to have been written as the dramatic equivalent of airport paperbacks, in which the characters are almost as thick as the pagination. The new one, which promises, or at least threatens to see us through to June, is *Chancer*, a weird mix of *Servant of the House* and *Howards Way*, in which a likely lad sets out to save an ailing car factory from bankruptcy after an inferno.

The clash of old and new money is, as usual, deafening, but what matters here are the supporting performances: Leslie Phillips as a wonderfully vicious old queen in charge of a City corporation, Benjamin Whitrow as the head of the ancient family firm with something nasty and distinctly Gothic going on in the attic, Peter Vaughan as the sinister foreign millionaire, and, in the title role, Clive Owen, a newcomer whose acting suggests that he has already been overtaxed by the effort of posing for the cover of this week's *TV Times*.

Not since the mad demise of the Danziger Brothers Studio in the 1950s have quite so many respectable actors been asked to utter quite so many appalling lines.

On Channel 4, *Out on Tuesday* is likely to provoke the most scandalous reaction of the week: a gay and lesbian magazine programme of breathtaking prime-time courage and tastelessness. Last night it considered the plight of lesbian yuppies, gays in the crash bar of the Royal Opera House, and why it is that 20 Conservative MPs are reckoned still to be locked in the closet. As Matthew Parris explained, coming out is still the kiss of death for a Thatcher Tory. That was almost the best line of the programme, though it was eventually beaten by an opera-goer who solemnly announced that *Madama Butterfly* was "more relevant" to his gayness than anything he had managed to find in the whole of South London. "One Fine Day" is never going to sound the same again in Wembley.

Mark Fisher, the shadow arts minister, says that the Government's response to the Wilding Report so far has been mechanistic

## Void where vision should be

As he struggles through the 6,000 responses to Richard Wilding's report *Supporting the Arts*, Richard Luce, the Arts Minister, may wish he had never commissioned it.

In December 1988 he proposed an inquiry "to review the structure and organization of support for the arts". It was to pay special attention to accountability, coherence and procedures. Instead the inquiry has provoked a heated debate. What was needed was a total restructuring. But *perestroika* cannot happen in a void. It requires a vision of what is to be restructured.

Where there should have been a clear Government statement about the cultural and economic importance of the arts in the 1990s, a determination to widen access, participation and opportunity, and a commitment to

increasing Government investment, there was only Richard Luce's limited and mechanistic brief.

When the report was first published, many people, including myself, who had feared that the report would centralize power with the Arts Council and the Office of Arts and Libraries, were relieved and delighted that Mr Wilding recognized the good work of local authorities and recommended a federal partnership between the Arts Council and Regional Arts Associations.

However, closer reading and analysis began to raise doubts. Depending on how it is implemented, the federal structure

could be as centralist as the present set-up, perhaps even more so. The full Arts Council is set to meet only four times a year, with most decisions being taken by a smaller Executive Committee on which the regions would have only one seat. Although all the RAA Chairs are to have a seat, the Arts Council is enlarged to make sure the regions are still in the minority. It is a funny form of partnership that does not trust them to act in the national interest.

But regional doubts over structure are nothing compared to the anger expressed over Mr Wilding's proposal that the new Regional Arts Boards (RABs) should cease to develop or fund arts projects

which "improve the social or educational provision for a particular community". This should be left to local authorities.

If implemented this would affect all disability arts and community arts clients, most work with minority groups, youth projects and the dance animator movement. Most local authorities are taking increasing responsibility for such work, but to devolve funding in this way, coinciding with the introduction of the poll tax, would be an act of wanton destruction.

Controversy of a different kind has been provoked by Mr Wilding's proposal to reduce the number of RABs from the present

twelve so that the regions can be kept in a minority on the Arts Council. His preference for seven RABs involves merging Northern Arts and Yorkshire Arts, creating one Midlands region stretching from Nottingham to Worcester, an Eastern region from North Humberston to Watford, and a South Western area from Cheltenham to Penzance. The Minister has felt the full fury of both Northern and Yorkshire.

More surprisingly, the recommendation that the Crafts Council should become part of the Arts Council has come under attack. The crafts world has bombarded the Minister with objections, as have leading designers.

It is likely that Mr Luce will reinstate the Crafts Council, stop any merger of Yorkshire and Northern Arts, and back off from the wrong-headed devolution of social and educational projects. But he has to find a way of creating some form of federal partnership.

Since the success of a federal system will depend on the goodwill of both partners, he would be well advised to pass this problem back to the Arts Council and RABs/RABs and tell them to present him with a jointly agreed plan within three months.

Even if he does, no amount of administrative jiggling will set up the arts for the expansion and *perestroika* that ought to take place in the 1990s. For that we need a Government, such as there is in France, with a positive commitment to the Arts.

## Rootsy revival of true grit

ROCK  
Mike NichollsTears for Fears  
Wembley Arena

You've got to hand it to Tears for Fears. Rarely have such a successful band (album sales of 15 million and rising) broken so many of the rules in the conservative pop game. After spending almost half a decade making their third LP, the last two singles barely made the Top 30. Yet the band can sell out three nights at Wembley, garnering deafening receptions with their stage act.

Naturally, it is down to the songs. Roland Orzabal, throwing discreetly tongue-in-cheek rock-star shapes, plays grand soaring tunes that manage to sound more epic than pompous. When he and his partner, singer and bassist Curt Smith, played the Hammersmith Odeon in 1985 it was like watching the Philharmonics; not an arrangement out of place. That was hardly surprising, when you considered the number of computers on stage.

In contrast, the current album (*The Seeds of Love*) and tour is something of a back-to-nature affair. The new material is more spontaneous, with even the odd burst of improvisation threatening

to break out. The innocence and elegance of the *Songs From The Big Chair* era have been replaced by some gritty rock 'n' roll, the inevitable consequence of playing countless American stadiums.

This is precisely what happened to another early-Eighties UK duo with a large upwardly mobile following, Eurythmics. Like them, Tears for Fears have surrounded themselves with a sterling selection of session musicians, including William Gregory on sax and keyboards, and Neil Taylor on sub-heavy metal guitar. More conspicuous still is former hotel lounge pianist Olea Adams, whose rootsy playing is largely responsible for the band's change in direction.

Despite having reinvented themselves, the group have not abandoned their back catalogue. All the revamped old favourites were presented alongside the new: "Pale Shelter", "Woman in Chains", "The Working Hour", "Head Over Heels" and "Badman's Song", these last two delivered with vicious aplomb.

The show finally climaxed with a mad cacophony of whistles, rapping, brass and percussion, indicating that Tears for Fears have made the transition from CD-friendly eclectics to a world class act. They might not yet be league champions, but they are certainly in the top half of the first division.

Jasper Rees

Randy Crawford  
Albert Hall

Vic, the dull-witted Midlands industrialist in David Lodge's *Nice Work*, has a soft spot for Randy Crawford, but Lodge was not the first to hint of the blandness of Randy. People have long been remarking that with its mechanical glissandos, its functional up-and-downs, Crawford's voice is most at home in elevators.

In a sense they are right. As elevators go, the Royal Albert Hall is on the cavernous side, but the sound Crawford emits from her almost as cavernous mouth easily fills the space, and it took her audience, among them, a high proportion of Vics (plus wives), up where they wanted to go. In the words of the Dylan song she has covered on her new album *Rich and Poor*, she had them knocking on heaven's door.

The sky seemed to be the most productive working environment for the woman who sang "One Day I'll Fly Away" (which sounded slightly strangulated in this show), as it is here she picks up all her handiest metaphors. With a repertoire full of songs like "You Bring The Sun Out", "Rainy Night In Georgia" and (from the new LP) "Cigarette in the Rain", Crawford has become the Michael Fish of soul.

But though she tends to sing about the drizzle, Crawford has never been one to put a dampener on things. Her sattering between songs frequently broke down when laughing fit intervened; she only managed to dredge up a straight face to introduce songs from *Rich and Poor*. She used the trusty sales technique of performing the new stuff more spiritedly than the old. But in truth it is not one of her better albums.

For all the shimmering of her meteorological ballads, one would like to hear her sing more up-tempo numbers like "You Might Need Somebody", with which she opened, and "Street Life", with which she closed. And there should have been fewer slumbering covers like Lennon's "Imagine", with which she encored.

But however drab the song, however repetitive the raincheck lyrics, and however charmless the accompaniment (her seven-man average white band was nothing if not charmless), Crawford's advantage is that her liquid voice is worth listening to in any setting, including elevators.



Crawford: elevator style had them knocking on heaven's door

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## Muted in jubilee

REGITAL

Stephen Pettitt

Melos Quartet  
Festival Hall

Such was the tumultuous greeting accorded to Mstislav Rostropovich when he walked on to the platform on Monday night that an accidental observer would be forgiven for thinking the evening had been in honour of him. It was the second half of the concert, and he had not been there for the first. Then it was just the more regular members of the Melos Quartet, who began this celebration of their silver jubilee with a performance of Schubert's D minor String Quartet, *Death and the Maiden*.

Over the years this quartet has given us valuable recordings and live performances — the staple diet of repertoire. Nevertheless, their playing is characterized more by healthy solidity than by transcendental inspiration. It also goes against modern practice, as epitomized by young groups like the Vogel Quartet from East Germany, heard in London just a couple of weeks ago.

The Vogels delineated their colours, phrasing and rhythms with utmost clarity, whereas last night the Melos tended to smooth and refine, even sometimes to blur. Partly for that reason, and despite the grateful ripeness of the slow movement, this was a dour performance, with an insufficiently dramatic first movement, a hurried, messy Scherzo, and a Finale which could also have been given more space, presto marking or not.

At the grand entrance afterwards one briefly experienced another quail, that Schubert's great, dark-tinted C major String Quartet, the piece for which Rostropovich had come, might be turned into a cello concerto. It was, after all, the only musical dressed in tails. Instead he sat deferentially at the second cello's desk and in a performance rather better than ordinary went on to blend well with the others, particularly with his excellent fellow cellist, Peter Buck, in the first movement's lovely duet. Moreover, the vast Adagio was given with magnificent control.



Seamus Newham and Tom Knight wrestling with Vanek's politics

## Anatomy of one nation's deceit

THEATRE  
Benedict NightingaleThe Vanek Plays  
Lyric Studio

When I first saw Václav Havel's three short plays, some 10 years ago in Richmond, my subject was very obviously the difficulty of avoiding compromise in an oppressive Czechoslovakia. After all, their author was still in the position of his character Vanek. He shuttled between mental jobs and a prison cell, embarrassing, upsetting and alienating many of his fellow-countrymen with his moral imperturbability.

Now Havel is, unbelievably, president of his country, yet his

triple-bill comes across neither as a historical document nor as a triumphalist reminiscence. On the contrary, it leaves you feeling that winning the peace may be as hard as winning the war. All three plays suggest what their author has been publicly saying: that lies erode the human spirit, and honesty, once lost, will take time to recover.

The point is: the stronger for Havel's unerring refusal to idealize his main character or to damn his less principled acquaintances. Vanek is mild, unassuming and, as performed by Tom Knight at the Lyric Studio, pretty dull. You cannot imagine him brandishing a fist or a flag, or doing anything with a barricade except earnestly wonder what it might be.

But that is less of a dramatic liability than it might sound, because his very passivity drives

ordinary trimmers into ecstasies of self-accusation and self-justification. The less arrogantly he behaves, the more inferior they feel. The less he judges them, the more they believe themselves judged. "No, really, I quite understand," he repeats; and most of them start flagellating themselves as hard as they are already hitting the bottle.

That is because they are not bad people, far from it. The chief malice in the brewery where Vanek carries barrels has to drink himself half-blotted with beer before making his furtive plea: that Vanek will make the task of informing on him easier by writing secret memos about himself. A brandy-soused intellectual half-apologetically, half-defiantly squirms his way to the conclusion that signing a petition will actually

damage those he wants to help. And in the final play, less naturalistic than the previous two, a modish couple flaunt their possessions, their eating habits, even their sex life at Vanek in an increasingly distraught attempt to lure the hermit from his wilderness.

As energetically performed by Seamus Newham and Simon Mattracks, Louise Bangay and John Peters, these people end by emerging almost more sympathetically than Vanek himself. They too are victims of political nastiness but, so far from enjoying the consolation of good conscience, their lot is humiliation and self-hatred. "It's sickening, the depths we have reached," opines Peters's sold-out intellectual. "Will the nation ever recover?"

Back in November, history gave its optimistic answer to that question. But one cannot see these plays without realizing that recovery will take time.

## Parody and dangerous integrity

CONCERT  
Paul GriffithsMoscow Soloists/  
Bashmet  
Barbican Hall

Alfred Schnittke's apologists are always insisting that comparisons with Western composers, especially Maxwell Davies, are mistaken, and yet here was a programme that seemed to make the point with complete success.

Before the interval we heard the First Concerto Grosso of 1977, with its stylistic range from Bach and Vivaldi to Cage and Ligeti, and its parodies flying scared (a tango in a baroque finale). Then at the start of the second half there was the *Monologue* for viola and

strings, written last year and presented in a uniform, if expressive, style of grand rhetoric.

The same creative journey, begun in doubt and completed, at least for the moment, in a dangerous integrity, could readily be shown in Davies' pieces of about a decade earlier in each case.

With both composers it remains easier to admire the rise of the earlier music than the grim determination of the later, whose coherence can be interpreted as a tough achievement against the demons of variety and irony, or less happily as a side-stepping of the issues.

Both composers, though, also share the luck, if that is what it is, of attracting the dedication of outstanding performers: here we had not only the extraordinary Moscow Soloists at orchestra but also an exceptional line-up of soloists, with Gidon Kremer and

Tatyana Grindenko leading the Concerto Grosso and Yuri Bashmet playing the viola piece that was specially composed for him.

Grindenko had perhaps the hardest job, facing the challenge not only of Schnittke's music but also of Kremer's playing in a piece full of imitative writing and of rapid switches between soloists. But the eyes-closed test proved it exceedingly difficult to distinguish her knife-edge nervous brilliance from Kremer's.

Bashmet's performance was also a triumph. His *Monologue* is a 20-minute slow movement, ranging over the viola from its lowest notes (exploited at the start in music that was marvellously recalled halfway through by the soloist with three cellos) to heights spanning over the violins, and from dead cold non-vibrato tone to wild excited trills.

There in the tenor with enough baritone quality for the closing "Nimni mi tena". It is an old-fashioned, uncomplicated interpretation which perhaps makes Elijah Moshinsky's production look a bit more fashion than it is.

Silvano Caroli's Iago added to that impression. Illness deprived us of the French baritone, Alain Foudry (a ferocious Escamillo in the Earl's Court *Carmen*), in the part, Caroli was a no more than passable substitute: voice a bit thin at the top, tempi sometimes at odds with the conductor and a very routine approach to the part. Routine is not an adjective that should be applied to *Otello* and there are three more performances in which to shake it off.

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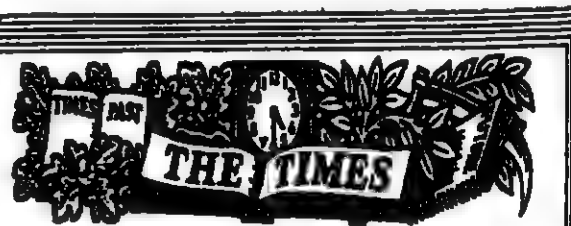
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# All the nice girls love a prince

The story so far: Ms Celia Brayfield has written a novel about a British prince that she hopes will be a best-seller. She is convinced that its combination of sex and romance is exactly what the modern woman requires, that no one — not even the most intelligent and mature of women — is safe from the seduction of her hero, the ideal man. Can it be true — and what might the intelligent man make of this glimpse into his partner's fantasy life? Two *Times* writers have read the book — or as much of it as the publishers will allow. Now read on...

**S**ome day my prince will come. As Barbara Cartland has known for years, every woman wants a prince: a man with natural authority and handsome features, large eyes, lean buttocks and a Royal Air Force dress uniform. An explosive yet gentle seducer, completely clean, and it helps if he can also produce a few harmless little-y insecurities for us to smooth away with our female intuition.

Princes are special. Why else do we greet real life Dianas and Sarahs with mixed adulation and bitchery? Because their princes have come and the supply is therefore running out for the rest of us. With young Prince Edward losing his rapidly and giving up Ruritanian military style for good, perhaps a collective panic has set in among British and American women: here are the princes now, feed our fantasies! We may be earning, but we are still yearning.

It was, I suppose, only a matter of time before an opportunist novelist decided to do what the Queen had failed to, and provide a fourth British prince to keep the fantasy going until William outgrows his Meccano set. After all, we could be simpler than to slip fictional royal son into the gap between the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York, endow him with a muscular jaw and sceptre, and market him to the teeming millions.

The only startling thought about Celia Brayfield's fat new novel is that it has been written by a woman journalist of apparently normal intelligence and published by Carmen Callil of Chatto, born everyone had thought to be a tough-minded feminist. Now that both have turned out to be her shocking cynics or marriage-weary fools, unusually flimsy denunciations have appeared in various papers, and Mr Hald Brooks-Baker of *Esquire's* Prince has been wheeled out to cry his nothing secret. To which is Callil's reply that it is "a modern fairy story", and Ms Brayfield insists that it is "the kind of book that comes out of a culture that exists between women" in which women endlessly discuss their partners with one another (d they? Not at our school gate). A storm in crested teacups go, it has all been good, knockabout fun.

Which is more than can be said for the actual book. Hope flickered briefly on page one when — after a creepy introduction about his "soft manner, hard mind and lean body", the author reverentially gives her hero his full name of

Prince Richard Alexander William Nicholas. The fact that the initials spell PRAWN was promising, but here the satirical intent of the book begins and ends. Thereafter unfolds a flat tale of a cardboard royal and his Styrofoam girlfriends. Ms Brayfield tries to placate the meretricious prince, we are constantly told, is brilliant and idealistic and would, even if born to any other family in Britain, "have risen to an equally exalted position in the world". But no proof of this is ever offered: indeed, so much time does Richard spend partying, mountaineering, speeding and sniffing coke that without the royal cipher on his vest he would be hard pressed to hold down a backstage job for Andrew Lloyd Webber.

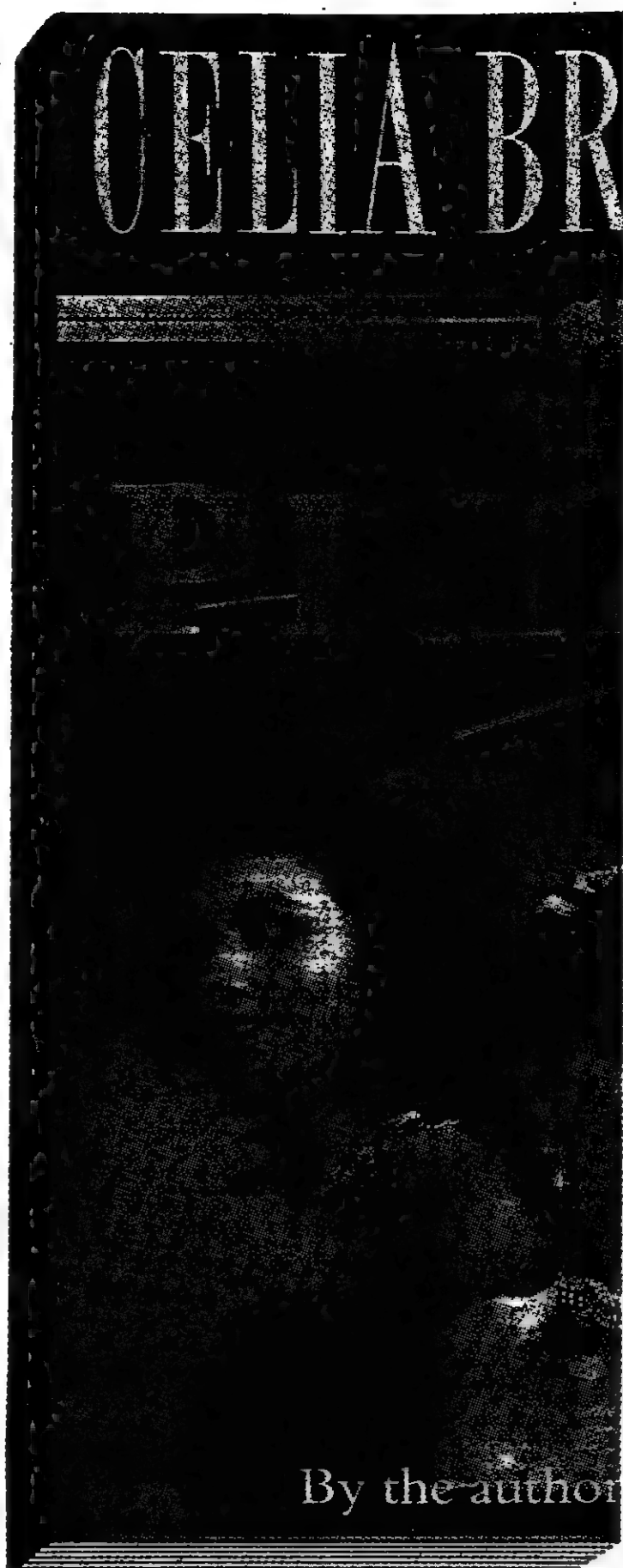
Around this depressing young man revolve three beautiful, talented young women: one a repressed Sloane courtier with a Dark Family Secret, another a

Hollywood brat, and the third a 6ft black model who becomes a civil rights lawyer when her brothers get beaten up by racist police. In the best traditions of Americanized formula fiction, they all have different colouring and figure faults so that we can all

identify. There is also a statutory Scheming Bitch to provide the more explicit sex, and a statutory Beautiful Nun doing war-work in the Lebanon. Which one ends up as the royal bride I do not know, since in a discountaneous glimch the 1,000 review copies have been sent out with the last chapters missing. But the flash-forward of the prologue implies that the prince actually releases the news of his impending engagement while all three contenders are severely convinced that they are the bride.

Perhaps he turns Mormon and marries the lot, or perhaps Ms Brayfield's final *coup de théâtre* is to explain away his previous inconsistencies of character by revealing that the Queen had triplet boys some time in the early 1950s, all called Richard. But never mind all that: it is no worse a book than any other cynically designed blockbuster full of knickknacks and brand-names and tart, pearly expanses of flesh. Like all such novels it is good at describing bodies, abysmally bad at describing emotion.

The interesting question is why both Ms Brayfield and Ms Callil are convinced that it speaks to "a culture of women" and carries the power of a fairy-tale. The women in the story, after all, have all been to Cambridge, and two of them have proper careers. Their prince has no visible talent, despite a bit of Falklands heroism, yet the



women swoon on him: none of them manages successful sex until the magic royal touch falls upon her tart and pearly bits.

All the women take a curiously servile sexual pose, there are Cartlandesque murmurs of "You're so strong..." and Girton College Cambridge must be quite insulted at Ms Brayfield's conviction that "the chief business of Girton's girls, whether they admitted it or not, was choosing their partners from the mass of masculinity around them". The women's movement might as well not have happened: I was at Oxford myself during the time she portrays and, enthusiastic as we were about social life, it would be a travesty to call it "the chief business" of young women whose intellectual lives were unfolding at dazzling speed.

If the girls are merely empty vessels waiting for perfect sex with men, the man is also vacant. There are attempts to give him sensitive

Prince Of Wales-type feelings; but his star status is more important. The magic, for all his women, works best when paparazzi are snapping and equestrians hovering: they want to be translated into another world, just like all the silly girls who used to hurl themselves out of the sea to kiss the gauche Prince Charles in his bachelor days. Some of them — or their daughters by now — will probably buy *The Prince* for the old fantasy's sake; but they will find themselves fobbed off with an overblown frog.

There is a long and perfectly decent literary tradition of books which ponder with harmless stylishness to female fantasies of being uplifted by men of higher rank from Cinderella to Georgeine Heyer via *The Making of a Marchioness*. This is not one of them: but the wonder, in 1990, is that it even tried to be.

Libby Purves

Who will read Ms Brayfield's book? Poised indelicately between the worlds of Jackie Collins and Barbara Cartland, *The Prince* may prove to be too restrained for readers of the former and too upsetting for Cartland's devoted fans. Shudders in the shires will surely reach danger levels when such lines as "His own mother liked him better when he was coked up and animated" are read aloud.

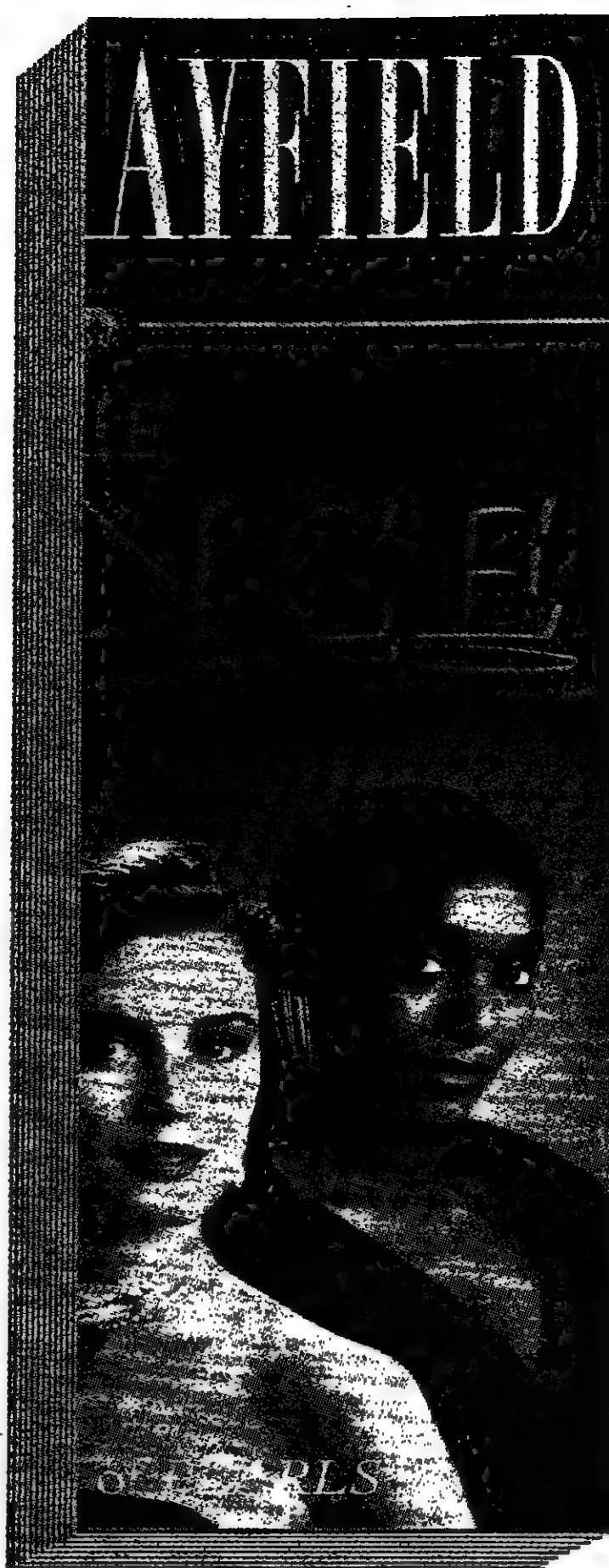
Perhaps the book has a wider appeal than both these models of women's fiction. Jackie Collins's world of power dressing and ruthless ambition is looking dated, and the soft-focus romance of Barbara Cartland is simply too distant from the increasingly complex and pressured lives of many women. *The Prince* contains the far-fetched but powerfully seductive idea that the right man can simplify their lives.

In general, men are portrayed within the book as stereotypes of inadequacy. There is the scedy amateur paparazzi photographer, the manipulative but highly successful fashion photographer, the intense film buff and the ineffectual diplomat. These are the men that women know, and often have to live with. By comparison, Prince Richard is a straightforward chap whose life has been blighted by the demands of the job.

The three central female characters look to him to unravel their entanglements. There are women who believe that a man can do this, just as there are men who fantasize that they can sort out the problems of the world. While their wives read *Lace or Riders*, such men can be found reading thick paperbacks about tough guys who beat the Russians at their own game or win the war single-handed. If Sylvester Stallone is a success because he suggests that men believe they can be Superman, then writers such as Ms Brayfield sell books because they support the idea that women don't really wish to be Superwomen.

The Royal Family is treated with painstaking caution. The Queen is wise and compassionate, the Duke of Edinburgh barks and snaps without ever causing serious distress, the Prince of Wales is a genial young buffer who talks in *Goon Show* voices, and so on. But is hardly the central issue in this very British soap opera. The idea of setting a faintly plausible drama within the world of our Royal Family breaks a taboo which has invited defilement for some years. More intriguing than that is Ms Brayfield's notion of the prince as a symbolic creature with a power that no woman can resist. Otherwise self-possessed women, strong enough to throw aside men who oppress them or fail to match them, fall into Richard's bed and under his spell without a murmur of protest.

Rather cunning in the way it adopts the form of a progressive Mills & Boon bodice-ripper, *The Prince* has a liberal tone which is at odds with the core of the book. Immigration officials and policemen are racist, the passing of years is marked by miners' strikes or punk groups, and between bouts of conspicuous consumption the characters are reminded of the existence of Third World poverty. Within this radical landscape, however, lies a profoundly reactionary message. Ms Brayfield is clearly looking ahead to the demise of the New Man and the Post-Feminist Woman. After disappointment in love, Prince Rich-



ard endures all the tortures of compensatory promiscuity, drink and drugs. Instead of embracing health and chastity like a proper New Man, he toughs it out to the bitter end, pouring "incoherent endearments" into any ear that will receive them.

Women who confront life head-on become suspiciously helpless once they are within the royal orbit. Even Jocasta, the precocious American who has seen it all, falls backwards into a previous era: "She raised her head and her long lashes swept up. Obeying the small command was a delicious token of greater submission to come. The effort of holding his gaze made her feel breathless." According to Ms Brayfield, this is the secret desire of all women.

She will no doubt assume that her theory is correct when her book rockets into the best-seller list. Whatever the detractors may hope, any book which embroils

the Royal Family in sex, drugs and marriage must surely reap full benefits from extensive publicity. The symbol of a rescuing prince has some resonance in the sense that women desire men who are not hopeless, helpless or treacherous, and some readers may temporarily suspend their better judgement and interpret the book in this way for the sake of a good read.

The full extent of Ms Brayfield's belief in a prince's power to charm the most resolute feminist woman can be judged only after reading the final missing chapters. Perhaps all three women reject him. My money is on the unrepentant English rose, with a vasectomy for the prince, but perhaps that would be too much for the shires.

David Toop

● *The Prince* by Celia Brayfield will be published on March 29 by Chatto & Windus (£12.95)

## Past pleasure

To help history come alive, the National Trust is launching an activity book called *Making History*, which encourages children to create accessories for acting out their historical fantasies. The book provides the stiff paper shapes for making a credible wig, fan, mask, crown or ruff, all based on original items from National Trust houses. The ruff, for example, is modelled on one worn by Bess of Hardwick at Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire. The book will cost £7.50 from National Trust shops this spring. For a full list of National Trust events and activities from March 18, when the season opens, write

enclosing an A4 self-addressed envelope with a 24p stamp to The Events Department, Joanna Boyson, The National Trust, 36 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AS. Donations are also being solicited for the Trust's Tree and Gardens Storm Disaster Appeal 1990; they should be sent to The National Trust Trees and Gardens Storm Disaster Appeal, Freepost, Melksham, Wiltshire SN12 6BR (cheques payable to National Trust).

## Fat and female

There is evidence that the ideal image of the female body is shifting once again to a more amply proportioned shape — as Adele Rootstein's "Shape of the Nineties" mannequin, with her 40in bust, would seem to indicate.

## BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

Margaret Greaves is a psychologist who specializes in helping large women come to terms with their own self-image — as she herself has done. Now she shares her experiences and research into social attitudes and historical perspectives in a book to be published tomorrow called *Big and Beautiful: Challenging the Myths and Celebrating Our Size* (Grafton Books, £11.95). Her book offers practical advice on everything from positive thinking to

choosing clothes. Following so closely after Shelley Bovey's *Being Fat is Not a Sin* (Pandora, £4.99), and the formation of the London Fat Women's Group, it seems to be part of a positive propaganda campaign.

## Period pieces

Devotees of art deco, art nouveau, Arts & Crafts and other furniture from the turn of the century to the 1960s should visit Art Furniture, recently moved to 158 Camden Street, London NW1 (01-267 4324). This is the company which hires out props for period films and television series such as *Batman* and *Poirot*, and just the place to find that post-war aluminium aircraft factory furniture, 1920s cocktail cab-

## Quote me . . .



"I think women have been around in politics long enough for them to be dealt with — to coin a phrase — as 'one of us'."

net or Lloyd Loom chair. A 1930s radio might cost £30, an Arts & Crafts sofa in immaculate condition £500. The shop is open from 10am-6pm seven days a week.

## Healthy hotels

Great Hotels have been commended by *Which?* magazine for their "Healthy Eating Menu" featuring low-fat, high-fibre alternatives to traditional hotel fare and offering imaginative creations such as "filo baskets of crab with tomato and basil", "savarin of scallops, langoustine and coriander" and "mango and grape mousses". The consumer magazine also encourages diners to be more demanding and discriminating — to ask for wholesome instead of white bread, and not be afraid to send dishes back if they are laced with butter or cream when you asked for them plain. The Americans have been doing it for years.

Victoria McKee

## Come to the festival

From the middle of this month until the very end of summer it will be festival time somewhere in Europe. In *The Times*

THE TIMES ON SATURDAY IN COLOUR

on Saturday we publish Hilary Finch's guide to all the important musical events, with details of how to get there and how to book tickets.



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# TELEVISION & RADIO

## With both feet on the ground

Peter Waymark

You can never tell with Q.E.D. (BBC1, 9.30pm). Most weeks we are invited to take part in a light-hearted speculation about some piece of quasi-scientific trivia. Then, suddenly, the programme changes tack completely, as it does tonight with *Back to the Drawing Board*, a sober but hopeful documentary about cerebral palsy. Emmett de Monteyre, an otherwise spry 12-year-old, was born with the condition, which means that he cannot walk properly and his legs are being pulled horribly out of shape.



Emmett de Monteyre: exercising his right to a normal life (BBC1, 9.30pm)

He could normally expect to spend most of the rest of his life in a wheelchair. But he has the chance of going to the United States for an operation, which, to put it as bluntly as the commentators put it, involves taking his legs and thighs to bits and rebuilding them. He knows that such surgery is difficult to carry out and carries no cast-from-guarantee of success. The surgeons, two teams of them each working seven hours, are helped by a computerized analysis of Emmett's walk, using techniques pioneered by the Newington Children's Hospital in Connecticut. Those who fear explicit coverage of operations unsuitable for a child to watch, say, "It's a lot for a little guy to take". No one expects miracles, and much will depend on whether Emmett himself has the determination to get back on his feet.

Having recently seen the literary bestseller with profiles of Iris Murdoch and P.G. Wodehouse, *Bookmark* (BBC2, 8.10pm) takes an imaginative leap back into pre-literary culture with a visit to the Waura tribe of central Brazil. Here the oral tradition of story-telling is still intact while the stories themselves are cheerfully uninhibited. Such themes as love, jealousy and eroticism are treated with a frankness that the Waura people, men, women and children, take happily in their stride but may stifle the uninitiated viewer. Usually spoken around the fire at night, the stories are said to hold up a mirror to the realities of the tribespeople's lives. Whether this is true of the example featured tonight seems doubtful, since it appears to belong more to the realm of myth and legend than to everyday experience. It tells how two jealous women avenge themselves on their husbands by seeking pleasure with an alligator spirit which obligingly materializes from the river.

- 8.00** *Casualty*: 8.30 *BBC Breakfast News* with Nicholas Witchell and Laurie Mayor. Includes regular news headlines, business reports, sports items, regional news, travel and weather forecasts. Paul Cullen reviews the morning newspapers. 8.55 *Regional news and weather*: 9.00 *News and weather* followed by *Open Air*. Viewers comment on yesterday's television. To contribute ring 081 814 0424.
- 9.00** *Kling*: Robert Kling-Six chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject. *Going for Gold* (r).
- 10.00** *Children's BBC* presented by Simon Parkin begins with *Playdays*. The story is *Kind Kevin* 10.30 *Henry's Cat* (r) 10.55 *Five to Seven*. Catherine Giller with a reading.
- 11.00** *News and weather* followed by *Open Air*. Eamonn Holmes and Jayne Irving follow up viewers' calls.
- 11.30** *News and weather* followed by *Newsline*. Includes film of the *Julius and Ethel* Trust of 1989. Lord Nelson arriving in France; and Brian Turner with the latest news of his campaign for Great British Food. Presented by Alan Titchmarsh, Judi Spiers and Marian Foster. 12.30 *Regional news and weather*.
- 1.00** *One O'Clock News* with Philip Heyton. *Weather*.
- 1.30** *Neighbours*. Des is a bundle of nerves as he takes his debut approach; and as the competition between Jim and Joe over the billycart intensifies, Aunt Edie steps into the middle of it. (Custia) 1.45 *Going for Gold* (r).
- 2.15** *Knock Landing Key* to a woman's heart. Mark's marriage is on the line if he fails to come up with an explanation.
- 3.00** *Living with Dying*: Terminal illness. The reality and the nightmare of facing up to terminal illness. Presented by Michael Barrymore and David Jarvis. 4.15 *The Further Adventures of SuperTed* 4.30 *Jackanory*. Connie Booth with part three of E. B. White's *Charlotte's Web*. 4.55 *Tessie* (see Choice).
- 5.00** *Newsround* 5.10 *Troublemakers*. Episode four of the six-part children's series and the skinheads trap Mandy and Barney in a corner. (Custia)
- 5.35** *Neighbours* (r). (Custia)
- 6.00** *Six O'Clock News* with Peter Sissons and Andrew Harvey. *Weather*.
- 6.30** *Regional News Magazines*.
- 7.00** *Wogan*. Tonight's guests are John Mortimer, Josie Lawrence and Bros. Family matters. Attitudes to being overweight have changed. Tonight, people talk about their personal experiences of society's rejection of obesity, followed by a studio discussion which asks whether people should conform and be thin. With John Humphrys.
- 8.00** *Blackadder*. Cal on a hot flat. The River. JR explodes when Cal accuses him of having an affair, and tells him about her night with Alex. Meanwhile, enemies are out to frame Ewing Oil with the responsibility for the oil leak.
- 8.30** *Points of View* with Anne Robinson.
- 9.00** *A Party Political Broadcast* on behalf of the Conservative Party.
- 9.30** *News* with Maryline Lewis. Regional news and weather.
- 9.55** *Q.E.D.*: Back to the Drawing Board (see Choice).
- 10.05** *Movie* *Over the Top*. Kitchen Sink drama. Pamela Stephenson continues her exploration of being a woman with a look at the job women start when they come home from work.
- 10.35** *Sportnight*. Steve Rider presents highlights of the four one-day international matches between England and West Indies from the Bourda cricket ground, Georgetown, Guyana. Plus coverage of the men's original programme in the world figure skating championships from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and European Cup soccer quarter-finals featuring AC Milan v Mechelen and Bayern Munich against PSV Eindhoven. Finally, a preview of the motor racing grand prix season.
- 12.30am** *Weather*.

- 6.00** *TV-an* begins with *News* and *Good Evening* 6.10 *Playdays* with Richard Kitchell. 6.30 *News* with Lorraine Kelly and Mike Morris. With news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00. After news includes *Power Prison* on tranquillizer dispensing.
- 9.25** *The Regional News*. General knowledge quiz show 9.55 *Times News* and weather.
- 10.00** *The Times*... *The Times*... Mike Scott chairs a topical discussion.
- 10.40** *This Morning*. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's topics include advice on personal problems from Denise Robertson; Brian Thomas with gossip from Hollywood; details of voluntary organizations in need of volunteers; and a microwave recipe from Kevin Woodford.
- 12.10** *Allo! Allo!*. For the young 12.30 *Home and Away*. Nigella is asked to keep an eye on Morg.
- 1.00** *News at One* with John Sochet. *Weather* 1.30 *Times News* and weather 1.55 *Going for Gold* (r). Gila manipulates CC into an early wedding. Followed by *Clash of the Titans*.
- 2.00** *Look Good*. Paul Good includes presenter Anne Davies on a visit to a Nottingham hairdressing salon where staff use a computer to decide on the best hairstyle to suit a client's features.
- 2.30** *Take the High Road*. Eric spots some unusual advice at Lash-Falch.
- 2.55** *Win, Lose or Draw*. Celebrity guests draw well-known phrases and sayings to help their fellow team members win prizes 3.30 *Times News* and weather 3.55 *Going for Gold* (r).
- 4.00** *Woman*. Cartoon adventures of a dog 4.15 *Radio 4's Caravan Club*. The quest is special effects expert and the quest is special effects expert and the quest is special effects expert.
- 4.30** *Woman*. Cartoon adventures of a dog 4.45 *Radio 4's Caravan Club*. The quest is special effects expert and the quest is special effects expert.
- 5.10** *News* with Sue Carpenter. *Weather*.
- 5.40** *Home and Away* (r).
- 6.30** *Times News* and weather.
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WEDNESDAY MARCH 7 1990

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Executive Editor  
David Brewerton

## THE POUND

US dollar  
1.6490 (+0.0100)  
W German mark  
2.8066 (+0.0144)  
Exchange index  
88.0 (+0.3)

## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
1745.7 (-9.9)  
FT-SE 100  
2216.0 (-14.5)  
USM (Datastream)  
147.24 (-1.02)

Market report, page 28

## Property slump hits Wates City

Net assets per share last year rose from 264.8p to 300.2p at Wates City of London, the property company specialising in developing and owning buildings within the Square Mile.

Despite this 13 per cent increase in net assets, the year to December saw pre-tax profits tumble as profits from property sales of £20.2 million in 1988 slumped to nothing. A final dividend of 2.62p a share (2.31p) is being paid, making a total of 3.39p a share (3.08p). *Times*, page 24

## Templeton up

Templeton Galbreath & Hansberger, the Bahamian-based fund manager, increased its pre-tax profit by 31 per cent to \$63.8 million in the year to December. Funds under management grew to \$17.5 billion. The final dividend of 9 cents makes 13 cents, up 18 per cent. *Times*, page 24

## STOCK MARKETS

New York  
Dow Jones 3891.04 (+11.48)  
Tokyo  
Nikkei Average 33791.08 (+54.12)  
Hong Kong  
Hang Seng 2983.23 (+5.48)  
Amsterdam  
Amst 107.4 (+0.1)  
CBS Tenancy 1580.4 (+1.33)  
Frankfurt DAX 1622.22 (-10.94)  
Brussels  
Generol 5807.96 (+31.08)  
Paris CAC 3077.6 (+1.40)  
Zurich S&K Gen 506.9 (-2.3)  
London  
FT-30 Share 1745.7 (-9.9)  
FT-100 2216.0 (-14.5)  
FT Gold Mines 282.8 (+6.3)  
FT Fixed Interest 87.41 (-0.71)  
FT Govt Bonds 77.53 (-0.35)

## MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RUSSE  
British Borneo 7250 (+10p)  
News Corp 4700 (+20p)  
Antofagasta 587.50 (+10p)  
Dartford Holdings 7250 (+10p)  
Westmough 387.50 (+10p)  
Klass-Eds 177.50 (+10p)  
FALLS  
Mortland 3900 (-10p)  
P&O 588.50 (-10p)  
Ladbroke 278.50 (-10p)  
Hawker Siddeley 552.50 (-10p)  
Rothmans 2450 (-10p)  
McIntyre 1300 (-10p)  
Harriman 2800 (-25p)  
British Land 3380 (-10p)  
Citygrove 850 (-10p)  
Cayman 780 (-10p)  
GUS 14.15 (-15p)  
Liberty 4350 (-10p)  
Bass 917.50 (-14p)  
Closing prices  
SEAG Volume 405.4m

## INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 15%  
3-month interbank 15.75% (51%  
3-month sterling bill 14.75-14.85%  
US Prime Rate 10%  
Federal Funds 8.75%  
3-month Treasury Bill 7.89-7.97%  
30-year bonds 9.75-9.85%

## CURRENCIES

London New York  
£: \$1.6490  
£: DM2.8066  
£: Sfr2.8066  
£: Sfr2.8066  
£: Yen148.25  
£: Index: 88.0  
ECU £2.78585  
ECU £2.78585  
ECU £2.78585

## GOLD

London Fixing  
AM \$404.80 pm \$405.35  
close \$404.50-405.00 (\$245.25-245.75)  
New York  
Comex \$404.70-405.20

## NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Apr) \$19.45 bid (\$19.25)  
Denotes latest trading price

## TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
Australia	2.27	2.18
Canada	2.27	2.18
Denmark	11.18	10.58
France	6.52	6.52
Germany	2.27	2.18
Greece	288.25	282.25
Italy	1.70	1.65
Japan	2188	2024
Netherlands	3.27	3.08
Norway	11.30	10.64
Sweden	268.50	262.50
Switzerland	4.20	4.20
Turkey	168.50	174.50
USA	1.75	1.75
Yugoslavia	1.75	1.75

Notes for small commission bank rates only as supplied by Barclay's Bank PLC. Conversion rates apply to tourist's cheques.  
Pound Price Index: 118.5 (January)

## Fraser bid report may end 'instant takeovers'

By Graham Scarse  
Financial Editor

Instant takeover bids, especially those mounted by bidders that are not quoted companies, could disappear as a result of the Department of Trade and Industry report into the House of Fraser/Louisa affair which will be finally published today.

The takeover rules could change if lessons drawn from the House of Fraser affair by Sir Henry Brooke QC and Mr John Aldous, the DTI inspectors, are put into practice by the Bank of England, the City

Takeover Panel and the Office of Fair Trading.

One of the key aspects of the affair is that the OFT, Mr Norman Tebbit, then Trade Secretary, and the press relied on statements about the Fayed family's standing and resources from its advisers, particularly Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank, which have since been dismissed as false.

In future, the authorities may insist that merchant banks, as lead advisers under the City Takeover Code, are responsible for verifying independently any claims they make about their clients in ad-

vance. This was not done in the Fraser case.

Merchant banks would have a duty to get to know details about new clients' financial affairs and resources before taking them on. This alone would challenge the trend in the securities and takeover business, which has been to substitute one-off relationships on deals for the more old-fashioned long-term relationship between companies and their advisers.

They would also need to verify independently in advance any information about their clients issued in takeover documents,

press releases or submissions to the OFT.

Merchant banks and solicitors would also have to be clear about their role when representing their clients to the Office of Fair Trading, giving statements on their own responsibility and not relying on information supplied by clients, or on personal judgements.

In the Fraser case, ministers have said that they relied on information and assurances from advisers, and on the standing of advisers. But it has since emerged that this was a misunderstanding and that, in the context of a tight

bid timetable, advisers were simply representing their clients' case or giving personal judgements rather than supplying information they had checked.

This could lengthen OFT investigations into whether proposed takeover bids should be referred to the Monopolies Commission at a time when the Government has taken steps to speed up Monopolies Commission inquiries.

The changes, if put into effect, would particularly affect cash offers — such as the Fayed bid for House of Fraser — where less information is usually required

than where an issue of shares is involved.

It would also particularly affect bids by individuals, consortia or "off-the-shelf" companies, where accounting information on the history of a company and its promoters would not necessarily be immediately available.

The changes would also require advisers to keep detailed records and minutes of meetings and casebooks on their relationships with clients. Many have already been forced to do this in parts of their business under the Financial Services Act.

## De Beers picks Swiss base for overseas assets

By Colin Campbell, Mining Correspondent

De Beers, the Oppenheimer-controlled South African diamond group, in a move which it denies is made in fear of Mr Nelson Mandela's nationalisation threats, is setting up a Swiss base to hold all the group's non-South African assets.

The move, by such a visibly identified South African group — which would have been unthinkable five years ago — has been viewed as "logical" world-wide. De Beers' share price vaulted in London and New York, rising from £11.82 to £13.75.

Mr Julian Ogilvie Thompson, De Beers' chairman, said the new arrangement had been under consideration for "some time".

"It does not indicate any particular view of current political developments in South Africa," he said. The aim, he added, is to secure proper recognition of the true value of De Beers shares.

The Swiss arm will operate from Lucerne — where De Beers and its Central Selling Organisation has been holding regular diamond "rights" for the past 20 years — and will hold all the group's non-South African assets.

These include group interests in other parts of Africa; diamond stocks of trading subsidiaries; the foreign element of the Central Selling Organisation; the foreign synthetic diamond businesses; group investments in Min-

ero, Anglo American Corporation of South America, and Eastern Investments. The Swiss company will be called De Beers Centenary.

There is no intention or plan to transfer to Switzerland any of the operations of the London Central Selling Organisation, the marketing arm of De Beers.

The Swiss-held assets will represent in rand terms 60 per cent of the 1989 equity-accounted earnings of the De Beers group as a whole, and 43 per cent of net assets.

"A De Beers shareholder will own securities in both the foreign and the South African

Comment 25

groups. These securities will be stapled and tradeable only as one unit," De Beers South Africa will hold a 95 per cent stake in the Swiss offshoot.

The decision to establish the Swiss company will better identify earnings, dividends and assets attributable to the foreign and South African parts of De Beers, facilitate access to the international capital markets, and should erode the "political discount" attached to De Beers shares.

"The strength of the whole is greater than the sum of the parts," Mr Ogilvie Thompson said.

Two boards will be identical and will co-operate in the best interests of all shareholders. There should be no adverse tax implications for shareholders. An esti-

mated 13 per cent of De Beers' equity is held on the London share register.

De Beers yesterday announced 1989 results showing pre-tax profits had climbed from R2.87 billion to R3.84 billion (\$1.21 billion to \$1.51 billion) and that attributable earnings had risen from R2.1 billion to R2.87 billion.

At the equity-accounted level, earnings (before extraordinary items) were R4.09 billion compared with R2.96 billion.

De Beers is raising its final dividend from 155 cents to 217.5 cents making 280 cents (200 cents) for the year.

Johannesburg investment managers said last night that the move to split the company is entirely logical given the political uncertainty overwhelming South Africa.

"Other groups have done it, and more will follow. If there is the possibility on the horizon — even if it is only 10 years away — of nationalisation, then it is logical to safeguard your company," according to one fund manager.

De Beers might need to have access to international capital markets, which a Swiss company would better be able to facilitate.

Switzerland rather than anywhere else was chosen because "We have always thought Switzerland is a very sound place to have a holding company with international trading," Mr Ogilvie Thompson added.

## Fisons profits grow to £169m

PETER TREWORTH



Man of destiny: John Kerridge, chairman of Fisons, yesterday as his company delivered its predicted strong results

Pre-tax profits of £169 million at Fisons in the year to December represented a 28 per cent rise on 1988, and a 45-fold rise on the 1980 figure (writes Jeremy Andrews).

The outcome was in line with the forecast of "not less than £165 million" made at the time of its £211 million rights issue in December to pay for VG Instruments, which it bought from BAT. The final dividend of 3.85p is also as forecast then, leaving

the total 1.2p up at 6.2p.

Earnings per share were 14 pence up at 22.3p, somewhat less than the 20 pence organic growth claimed by the company. However, 1988 results had been boosted by 28 million worth of exceptional gains from currency and options trading, largely absent last year because foreign exchange markets were less volatile. Sales rose by 24 per cent to £1.62 billion.

The purchase of VG In-

struments will help absorb £20 million of undivided advance corporation tax in the UK and the tax charge is not expected to go up in 1990. Year-end gearing was 32 per cent, although there was still net interest income of £2 million from cash on deposit in the UK.

Profits from pharmaceuticals rose by 40 per cent to £128 million. Sales of Fisons' key anti-

asthmatic drug Intal rose by 30 per cent in the US, helped

by the increased sales force brought in by the \$441 million acquisition of Pennwalt in 1988. Pennwalt raised Fisons' coverage of the general practitioner market from 40-50 per cent to 95 per cent. Mr John Kerridge, chairman, said.

He was encouraged by sales of Intal, a successor to Intal. He said £100 million would be spent on expanding research laboratories over the next few years. The shares fell 6p to 318p. *Times*, page 24

## OECD to target inflation

By Colin Narborough  
Economics Correspondent

Senior monetary officials from the leading industrial nations have agreed to prop up the sagging yen and maintain a firm mark — underlining the message concerning central bank action against the dollar has been sending the markets.

Concerned that the risk of inflation is now higher than the risk of economic slow-down, the officials at an Organization of Economic Development meeting agreed that longer-term measures to control inflation must be emphasized.

Endorsed by today's meeting of Group of Seven officials, this view should help the Bank of Japan delay the expected rise in Japanese interest rates.

Meanwhile, the US Federal Reserve Board sold dollars late in the European trading day after the Bank of Japan unloaded the currency on a large scale.

The pound recovered some of its poise. Its trade-weighted index closed 0.3 of a point up at 88, reflecting a one-cent gain against the dollar to \$1.6490 and a 1.44 pence rise to DM2.8066.

A parliamentary reply from Mrs Thatcher, reaffirming the Government's determination to keep base rates at the level needed to fight inflation, appeared to help sterling.

## Berisford faces unhappy investors

By Our City Staff

Berisford International, the sugar and property group, is holding individual meetings with unhappy institutional investors to discuss possible management changes in the wake of the group's disastrous involvement in New York property investment. Some of

these meetings are exploratory.

However, some fund managers are known to support ABF, Berisford's largest shareholder, which has 23 per cent of the equity, in its pressure for Mr Ephraim Margulies, the chairman, to step down.

Berisford was forced to

assume control of some US properties after a downturn in the market and bail out some of its property partners. The group spent more than \$8 million on buying out partners and assumed more than \$32 million of liabilities previously those of the partners. *Comment*, page 25

## Bénard says Eurotunnel needs more than £1.5bn

By John Bell, City Editor

Eurotunnel is working on plans to raise considerably more than the £1.5 billion it says is needed to complete the cross-Channel project.

Detailed financing plans are being finalized with the consortium of 208 banks backing the project and will not be revealed until next month. But the decision to provide extra funding was indicated by M. André Bénard, group chairman.

He said in Calais that the group would need more than £1.5 billion (£1.6 billion). A quarter would come from shareholders and the balance from the banks, he added.

In London, the company said that an extra contingency provision in addition to the funds required to complete the project was under consideration, though its size had not been settled. It is understood

that Eurotunnel's additional fund raising will be fixed on the basis of an unchanged cost estimate for the completed project of £7.2 billion agreed with banks early in January. The company stresses that there has been no new slippage.

But the plan for a contingency fund probably takes account of a dispute with the 10-strong construction consortium Transmanche-Link over what were to be fixed-price portions of the contract. TML and Eurotunnel are going to arbitration over £380 million claimed by the contractors.

M Bénard's hint of extra fund raising lends weight to a feeling that Eurotunnel is considering intermediate finance as a cushion between shareholders and banks. This could take the form of a

convertible loan aimed at equity investors or mezzanine finance from banks.

Some of the banks financing the project are thought to favour the idea of an additional layer of finance. This would provide additional security for their own debt in the light of the substantial rise in cost of the project. This has escalated from £4.8 billion originally to £7.2 billion.

Though financing is due to be settled by April, it is understood that a rights issue will be timed for closer to the date when the service tunnels meet. The breakthrough is expected by December and is believed by Eurotunnel to be important in reducing the perception of risk in the project. If this is the case, the company will be able to fix terms of the share issue more favourably.

## USM award goes to fast-growing plant hire group

## Ashtead builds a winning entry

By Michael Clark  
Stock Market Correspondent

These days good news from the building sector is a rare event indeed. But Ashtead, the Surrey-based plant hire specialist, has proved that it is not necessarily all gloom and doom in the world of bricks and mortar.

Last night at the Grosvenor House Hotel it scooped the top accolade of USM Company of 1989 at the annual dinner sponsored by the international accountant Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte and USM Magazine.

Its name joins a prestigious list of other winners that includes Parkway and Blenheim Exhibitions. Runners-up included Capita, Parkins Food, Norfolk House, Southern Business Group and Alan Paul. The glistening event has over

recent years established itself as one of the highlights of the City calendar.

The thousand-plus guests, including company chairmen, merchant bankers, stockbrokers and celebrities, listened intently to the guest of honour Mr Jeffrey Archer, politician, playwright and author, who has proved himself the equal of many a City pundit in making the odd million, or two.

But even he would be hard pressed to match the breathtaking performance of Mr Peter Lewis, chairman, and fellow director Mr George Burnett, who between them have turned Ashtead from a "small regional hire company" into one of the most profitable companies in the country. They have raised pre-tax profits, since the group went public in 1986, from £533,000 to £5.5 million in

the year to April 30, 1989. Analysts are looking for another 25 per cent growth in earnings during the current year with most of them having already pencilled-in pre-tax profits of £7.8 million this time around.

Ashtead joined the USM in November 1986 at 122p a share and touched an all-time high of 400p in 1987 before the crash. It enjoys bold management that has purposely kept its exposure to the new housebuilding market to a minimum — a shrewd move indeed.

Mr Tom Horn, chairman of Norfolk House, which develops and manages roadside service stations, was Entrepreneur of the Year, and Le Creuset, the French cookware group, took the USM Overseas Company of the Year accolade.

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## TEMPUS

## Fisons' formula works wonders

At the end of a decade in which profits rose from £3.8 million to £169 million, Fisons feels able to indulge in a little self-congratulation. Mr John Kerridge, chairman for most of that time, is understandably proud of that record. While Fisons issued plenty of paper during the Eighties, earnings per share rose from 1.2p in 1981 to 22.3p last year.

One odd result of that growth is that many long-standing holders look on Fisons shares as a source of income, even though the 1989 dividends of 6.2p were three times covered by earnings. Anyone who bought £1,000 worth in 1980 now receives no less than £516 in dividends.

But perhaps most remarkable is that Fisons' brilliant career has been founded on Intal, an anti-asthmatic drug which lost its patent protection in Britain as long ago as 1983.

The Intal issue is important because some analysts still see Fisons as struggling to replace its off-patent drugs with tax-driven acquisitions - such as its £270 million purchase of VG Instruments in December. The argument is that these deals are eroding Fisons' claim to be rated as a pharmaceutical stock.

Fisons' answer is that sales of Intal rose 30 per cent in the

US last year, despite the expiry of the drug's main patents there in 1988.

The drug continues to be protected by patents covering the size of the particles - which is critical to its effectiveness - and the hurdle rivals face in obtaining regulatory approval for their products.

Fisons is pleased with the progress of Tilade, Intal's main successor, in the European markets where it has been launched. And Mr Kerridge makes no apology for building a portfolio of non-pharmaceutical activities in case of hiccups in the drugs business.

With profits of £225 million and earnings of 26p likely this year, the prospective p/e ratio is 12 with the shares at 319p. That is not unduly expensive for a prescription that has worked well in the past.

## Templeton

Templeton, Galbraith & Hansberger has become known for buying the things no one else wants. It is now filling its funds with New Zealand and Australian equities, while most investors are happy to give them away. Japan it refuses to touch.

This approach has made Sir John Templeton, the chairman, and his clients, rich. It



Clinton Cards, the USM-quoted greeting cards group, sold about 20 million Christmas cards last year. It is one of the few growth stocks in the retail sector. Pre-tax profits rose from £2.5 million to £3.44 million for the year to January and sales 61 per cent to £38.4 million. Forty-nine shops were opened but like-for-like sales from existing shops rose 13 per cent. Earnings per share rose 33 per cent to 17.1p and the total dividend is up 20 per cent at 4.23p. Mr Don Lewis, chairman, (left with friend) expects to open at least 30 shops this year taking the total over 200. Analysts forecast profits of about £4.3 million for 1990 putting the shares, up 2p at 245p, on a rating of 11.5. They are a strong hold.

has not had the same effect on the shares. Despite Templeton having a better profit and fund growth record, its shares trade at less than half the value that Banque Indosuez is about to pay for Gartmore.

After a downward blip in 1988, the company returned to growth last year with net profits up 30 per cent at \$33.4 million. Total funds under management grew by 26 per cent to \$17.5 billion.

Last year, while the global

equity index climbed 17 per cent, Templeton's growth fund, the core of its many products, gained 22 per cent. Templeton rolls over only a fifth of its portfolio every year, an audible raspberry to shorter-term managers.

The greatest threats to the company's continued growth are the large marketing budgets and rising brokers' commissions of its opponents' funds.

Pre-tax profits of \$76 mil-

lion are in sight this year, giving the shares at 210p a p/e ratio of under nine, although the 3.9 per cent dividend from the 13 cent dividend could be more generous. Even so, the shares are beginning to look like one of the same undervalued situations that Sir John scorns the world for.

## Wates City

There is still life in the City of London property market. The

better-than-expected 13 per cent increase in net assets per share from the Square Mile specialist Wates City of London is evidence of that.

It also indicates that British property assets are falling into two categories. First there are those of a size, shape or location to normally attract a domestic buyer. The problem is that domestic institutions are not interested in buying.

Second is the type that can attract an international buyer. Through its policy of investing only in City property, virtually all Wates City's assets fall into this category. This international demand is the company's salvation. It means there will be buyers for any development the company chooses to sell. More importantly, it means that the value of the completed developments it chooses not to sell will go up.

Net asset growth is what Wates is about and shareholders can be pleased with the improvement from 264.8p to 300.2p a share in the year to December. The 30 per cent increase in net rental income and sharp reduction in borrowings offer further security.

Ignore the apparent slump in pre-tax profits from £30.2 million to £10.2 million, a reduction arising from the absence of property sales in 1989 - Wates' assets look a safe bet.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Profits climb 39% at Thomas Robinson

Thomas Robinson, the acquisitive mini-conglomerate, whose £220 million bid for John Crowthier two years ago was trumped by a higher offer from Coleridge, reports pre-tax profits for 1989 up 39 per cent at £25.1 million. Turnover was 46 per cent ahead at £307 million. The final dividend goes up by 0.5p to 2.5p, leaving the total a third higher at 4p.

Although it raised £38 million in a rights issue last August, fully-diluted earnings per share rose by 21 per cent to 14.1p.

Mr Graham Rudd, the chairman, said: "Despite the more difficult market-places, our order books are strong, which gives us confidence for the current year. The growth of the group during the past four years provides an excellent platform from which to move forward into the 1990s."

## Victaulic up to £8.8m

Greater water market demand helped Victaulic improve pre-tax profits 16 per cent to £8.8 million on turnover up a quarter to £78.3 million in the year ending December. The water market accounted for 38 per cent of trade to become the largest user of group products. Total dividend improves 15 per cent to 9.75p after a final payout of 6.5p on earnings of 28.8p (25.2p).

## Profits rise for Expamet

Expamet International, the building and security products group, made pre-tax profits of £13.6 million in 1989, up 32 per cent on last year. Sales rose 30 per cent to £150 million and earnings per share rose 25 per cent to 21.5p. The dividend is up 14 per cent at 10p. There was an extraordinary gain of £7.1 million from the £28 million disposal programme. The shares rose 2p to 218p.

## Interlink nears £3.6m

Interlink Express, the Unlisted Securities Market overnight parcels delivery and distribution group, lifted pre-tax profits by 4.6 per cent to £3.57 million in the six months to end-December on turnover up 22 per cent to £23.5 million.

However, after last November's decision to close the loss-making West German and French operations, the company revealed £4.2 million extraordinary write-off costs. Interlink shut its German subsidiary after a long-running dispute with management and failure to reach agreement on contracts with certain franchisees. Earnings per share rise from 13.67p to 14.28p. The interim dividend is 4.12p, against 3.75p.

## Carpenter bid success

E R Carpenter has declared its £15.84 million agreed bid for Hyman unconditional as to acceptances after winning nearly 80 per cent of the rubber products company. Acceptances have been received from 64.71 per cent of Hyman shareholders to add to the 15.83 per cent stake Carpenter owns through market purchases. The offer remains open until further notice.

## US factory orders drop

Orders to US factories for manufactured goods fell 5.4 per cent in January - the largest one-month decline for more than 15 years. Orders for both durable and non-durable goods totalled a seasonally-adjusted \$227.7 billion following gains of 0.4 per cent in December and 2.4 per cent in November. It was the steepest decline since a 7 per cent drop in December, 1974.

## Blagden rises 11%

Blagden Industries, the packaging and chemicals group, lifted pre-tax profits by 11 per cent to £11.5 million in the year to end-December, on turnover up by 20 per cent to £193.7 million. Earnings slip from 18p to 17.6p, after 1988's rights issue. The final is 4.9p (4.5p), making 9.1p against 8.4p.

The packaging division, which principally comprises new and refurbished steel drums, saw operating profits rise by 9.3 per cent to £9.84 million, on turnover up 20 per cent to £148.5 million. Sales benefited from the Spanish subsidiary after Blagden raised its stake from 50 per cent to 80 per cent.

## Ferranti to pay off a further £70m of debt to bankers

By Angela Mackay

Ferranti International expects to hand another £70.2 million to its bankers later this month - £32 million from the sale of half its sonar division to the French defence group Thomson-CSF and £38.2 million from the disposal of the company's remaining 50 per cent stake in Ferranti Italia.

Mr Eugene Anderson, chairman, who replaced Sir Derek Alun-Jones last month, said yesterday that the sale of Marquardt, the California-based weapons business was not expected "for some time."

Ferranti embarked on a restructuring after discovering a £215 million hole in its assets caused by fraud committed by part of its US subsidiary, International Signal & Control. After failing to find a suitable takeover can-

didate or merger partner, the company was forced to sell-off assets, in particular its radar division which was sold in January to GEC for £270 million, because it was in breach of bank covenants.

Shareholders approved the issue of special shares at an agm yesterday, designed to give them the right to benefit from proceeds of any litigation in respect of fraudulent contracts.

Mr Anderson said there was no certainty the litigation, against Peat Marwick, the auditors, four former executives and five Panamanian companies, would be successful.

The special shares have a nominal value of 1p each and will be issued on the basis of one for every 10 ordinary.

## Volvo hard hit by drop in car division profits

By Our City Staff

A 46 per cent fall in operating profits for AB Volvo's car division contributed to a 15 per cent fall in the company's 1989 profits.

During the last quarter, the company said it also charged SwK794 million (£74.2 million) to its operating income through a write-off of goodwill and a change in accounting policies.

Volvo reported a 1989

profit before tax and appropriations of SwK7.011 billion against SwK8.243 billion in 1988. Analysts had been expecting about SwK8.0 billion.

Excluding the goodwill write-off and changes in accounting policies, operating income for the fourth quarter was SwK802 million against 1.984 billion for the last quarter of 1988.

## COMPANY BRIEFS

**WATMOUGHS (Fin)**  
Pre-tax: £10.1m (£6.6m)  
EPS: 36.65p (26.72p)  
Div: 7.75p, mkg 10.25p

**CHELSEA MAN (Int)**  
Pre-tax: £0.70m (£0.67m)  
EPS: 8.24p (3.79p)  
Div: 0.8p (0.8p)

**PACER SYSTEMS (Fin)**  
Pre-tax: \$1.20m (\$1.11m)  
EPS: 14c (14c loss)  
Div: 3c, mkg 6c

**WATERMAN PART. (Int)**  
Pre-tax: £2.45m (£2.41m)  
EPS: 8.3p (8.2p)  
Div: 2.2p (2.0p)

**INTEREUROPE TECH. (Int)**  
Pre-tax: £0.84m (£0.80m)  
EPS: 7.95p (7.56p)  
Div: 2p (2p)

**SUNNET & VINE (Int)**  
Pre-tax: £0.33m (£0.32m)  
EPS: 4.3p (4.8p)  
Div: 1.5p (nil)

Last year's total dividend was 8.29p. Watmoughs is buying one-third of Christie's White Bros subsidiary for £29.7m in ordinary shares.

Sales £10.2m (£2.38m). Company had an excellent Christmas, trading at full retail price throughout. Board is "extremely confident."

Last year's total dividend was 5.5c. Group turnover eased from £28m to \$25.1m. Order book is \$82.2m after \$47.1m new contracts in 1988.

Work done rose by 29% to £3.77m. The board reports that the second half has started well with new enquiries at a high level.

Turnover £6.23m (£6.22m). Board reports that its market-place remains competitive and this is reflected in its trading margins.

Turnover increased from £1.06m to £1.29m. Company said the benefits of last September's move to large premises are flowing through.



## On Course.

With operating profits up 19% to £29.2m, Hays is right on course.

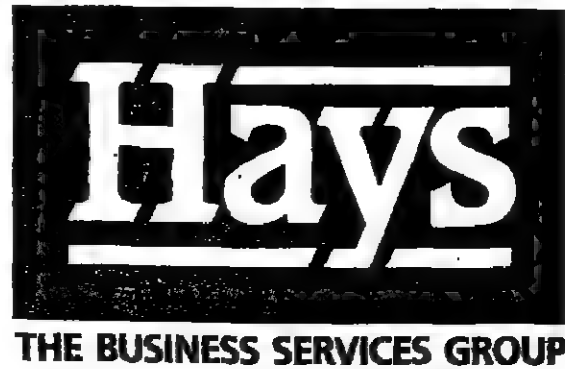
Our aim has always been to ensure our customers' satisfaction, and we achieve this by continued investment

in good management and our commitment to the highest quality of service.

It is our approach that has made Hays one of the largest and most

successful business services groups in the country.

As our results show.

INTERIM FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS  
Half Year to 31st December 1989 (Unaudited)

	88	89
OPERATING PROFIT	£24.5m	£29.2m +19%
PROFIT AFTER TAX		
ATTRIBUTABLE TO HAYS SHAREHOLDERS	£15.2m*	£17.6m* +16%
NET DIVIDEND PER SHARE	1.0p*	1.15p +15%

\*Pro forma based on the assumption that the capital structure following the flotation has existed since 1st July 1988.

\*Indicative rate of dividend announced at flotation and based on the assumption that the capital structure following the flotation has existed since 1st July 1988.

If you would be interested in a copy of our 1990 Interim Report please write to David Beckley, Hays plc, Hays House, Millmead, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5HL. Or telephone 0483 302203. This advertisement has been approved by Touche Ross & Co. who is authorized to carry on investment business by The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.



# EC chief set to oppose UK on Japanese car exports

From Michael Binyon, Brussels

The European Community's leading trade negotiator has indicated that he will back French calls for Japanese cars made in Britain to be accounted for in fixing temporary quotas for Japanese car exports to the EC after 1992.

Mr Frans Andriessen, the Commissioner for External Trade, yesterday sympathized with Britain's demands for unrestricted exports of Japanese cars made in Britain. He said he understood the difficulties of agreeing transitional arrangements for Japanese car imports if production from "transplant" factories in the

EC was not taken into account.

He insisted the matter would not affect the free export of British-made cars to other EC countries, but agreed it could mean that Japanese direct exports to the EC would be reduced in proportion to exports to other EC countries from Japanese factories in Britain and elsewhere.

This would infuriate Britain, which insists that British-made Japanese cars cannot legally be subject to any EC restrictions or treated differently from cars made in EC-owned factories. Britain's

worry is that if transplant-car exports were counted against Japanese direct exports, Tokyo might limit production in Britain, switching to more profitable exports from Japanese plants.

The Commission's decision not to count exports from Japanese factories in the US appears to make the rules for exports from EC transplants more restrictive than those from US transplants.

Mr Andriessen defended the US decision — taken to avert retaliation from Washington — by saying the number of US-made cars exported to

the EC was likely to be small. On the prospect of Japanese car factories being set up in Eastern Europe, he said those factories would spend at least the transitional phase filling the demand for cars in Eastern Europe. After the transition, the EC car market would be completely unrestricted.

Mr Andriessen, who spoke after a bitter quarrel on Monday between the French and British sides, will visit Japan for talks on March 23 and 24. But he did not expect Tokyo to make any concrete offer on voluntary restraints during the transitional phase.

## Cash from Cerebos to aid RHM expansion

By Colin Campbell

Ranks Hovis McDougall is to use the £186 million net proceeds from the sale of its 70 per cent stake in Cerebos Pacific to expand in Europe.

RHM, further to the February 9 announcement that the Suntory group of Japan had been granted exclusive negotiating rights for its 70 per cent stake in Cerebos, said the sale had been finalized and that the proceeds were due by April 12.

The deal is subject to approval from the Foreign Investment Review Board of Australia.

Suntory's offer for the Singapore-based manufacturer and distributor of branded food products in Australia and the Far East, was made at \$18.25 (£2.68) a share, valuing all of Cerebos Pacific at £265.7 million.

RHM added that the proceeds would reduce its pro forma gearing to less than 10 per cent and would provide the group with additional resources to develop its businesses in Europe, including Britain, and the US.

"Although there are no immediate plans for substantial acquisitions in either of these regions, expansion in Europe is one of RHM's principal objectives," it added.

In the year ended July 31, Cerebos Pacific made pre-tax profits of \$163.1 million. Net profit attributable to RHM from Cerebos was £7.1 million, equivalent to 2p per RHM share.

RHM shares traded 6p lower at 379p.

## Goldsmith's man for board of Guinness

Guinness has appointed Sir James Goldsmith's right-hand man, Mr Ian Duncan, as managing director of Guinness, who follows in the footsteps of Mr Olivier Roux, Mr Michael Julien and Mr Frank Fitzpatrick, was president and chief executive of GO Holdings Management, the company responsible for virtually all the US deal-making activities of Sir James.

Mr Duncan, aged 58, was educated at Edinburgh University. He qualified as a chartered accountant and worked for 15 years at ICI before joining Cavenham UK as group controller. He joined GO Holdings in 1983.

## Why De Beers may be splitting diamonds

COMMENT David Brewerton

In Main Street, Johannesburg, headquarters of Anglo American Corporation, they think in decades, if not half-centuries. So maybe not this year, or next, but at some time in the future it is likely that it will be to the advantage of the group that offshore assets of De Beers Consolidated Mines are held offshore, rather than through the central company in South Africa.

It is not difficult to imagine circumstances where this would be the case. Anglo, owner of 33 per cent of De Beers equity, campaigned long and honestly for a more liberal political regime in South Africa. On the Sunday afternoon that Nelson Mandela was released from his 27 years of confinement, De Beers was the first corporate entity to get its welcome onto the world's newswires. But when Mr Mandela came out, he was talking the language of nationalization. The chairman of Anglo, Gavin Kelly, a man known to give news photographers short shrift, posed for the world's press outside Mr Mandela's house. But when the two men met, in Soweto rather than Main Street, they did not exactly hit it off.

The rearrangement of De Beers, under which about 40 per cent of net assets, but 80 per cent of attributable earnings, are to be parked under the wing of a Swiss-domiciled parallel company, has the distinct snuff of "just in case" about it. The overseas assets will be placed potentially out of reach of the South African authorities. While the two halves, old De Beers and De Beers Centenary, start life with their equities "stapled" together as a unit, if push came to shove, they could probably be parted. De Beers is likely to see this

more as a bargaining counter than as a course of action, for the moment at least.

Similarly, the two companies start life with identical boards of directors and with their trading operations intertwined. But each is being encouraged to develop its own interests, and each is likely to command its own access to capital markets. The cost of borrowing, for De Beers Centenary, is likely to be lower with a stable Swiss base than with an unstable South African domicile. Even without nationalization, we can expect the two companies to drift apart over the years until the staple rusts away.

So much for the obvious, but there is more to the magic wand of chairman Julian Ogilvie Thompson, recently made chairman of Anglo and also chairman of Minorco. This is bound to figure in the De Beers Swiss offshoot, since De Beers holds 21 per cent of Minorco. The market thought so, and marked the Minorco share price up from 99p to 100p.

The reconstruction, while having obvious political implications, is a building bloc for other things to come. It is, for instance, interesting that it has the stamp of approval of the South African Reserve Bank authorities, which must be convinced that De Beers is not simply digging an exit tunnel from which to drag assets out of the country.

In the end, it might all be about the share price. A similar Swiss move made by Rembrandt group in setting up Richemont to hold all its offshore assets in autumn 1988 has been followed by a 130 per cent appreciation in the share price.

## Leaning on Berisford

Those who accuse the City's professional investors of benign neglect should look closely at the case of Berisford International before making the allegation lightly. Leading fund managers are on the warpath and it will be surprising if, eventually, they fail to have their way.

But the pressure for change is no less powerful for the fact that it is being exercised with a degree of restraint. Institutional shareholders might easily have engineered an embarrassment at the group's annual meeting on Monday, had they been minded to do so.

A number of them withdrew their proxies lodged in support of the board in a gesture of protest at the appalling losses inflicted on shareholders' funds through Berisford's flirtation with the cut-throat New York property world. Along with the 23 per cent controlled by its largest shareholder, ABF, the 13 or so per cent held by institutions might easily have overturned the routine

motion to adopt the report and accounts. Both ABF and disgruntled fund managers deliberately pulled their punches.

But there are some common threads emerging as to what the City big guns see as moves appropriate to the situation. The group's chairman, Mr Ephraim Margulies, was responsible for much of the group's successes in earlier days. There is a feeling now though that he should hand over to a younger man, better able to repair relationships with shareholders.

Other changes are being considered. It will be surprising if Mr Howard Zuckerman, chief executive of the US subsidiary, remains aboard if the institutions have their way. Without change, Berisford remains increasingly vulnerable with ABF sitting on 23 per cent of the votes and the enigmatic Irishman Mr Larry Goodman holding a further 12 per cent.

## Standard Chartered plans issue

Standard Chartered is planning a preference share issue in the United States to improve its capital base. It has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission as a first step towards one.

The bank has not decided on the timing or size of any issue, which would count as core capital for Standard and improve its risk/asset ratios.

Last year its core capital ratio fell to 4.1 per cent, just above the Bank of England's minimum. This improved to 5.7 per cent but is expected to decline again if it increases debt provisions.

## Jameel offer

Jameel has introduced a loan note facility in its £172 million bid for the Hartwell motor group. It is offering 155p per ordinary share in nominal value of loan notes which will accrue interest 21 days after the Jameel offer is declared unconditional or lapsed.

## Eagle deal

Eagle Trust, the engineering and film camera group whose annual report is due to be published tomorrow, has sold the loss-making repetition engineer, H Fordsmith, for a net £1.24 million cash to Rigdate.

## Bid lapses

The £11.8 million bid by East of Scotland Industrial Investments for Salure Insurance Investments, the Edinburgh investment trust, has lapsed after winning acceptance for only 8.2 per cent of the equity.

## Talks on site

Eagle Star is in talks with the syndicate of banks that have funded its Paddington residential development, Carlton Gate. The talks follow the appointment of liquidators at Declan Kelly, Eagle Star's joint developer at Carlton Gate. Funding of about £60 million is required if the development is to be finished.

## Invergordon up

Invergordon Distillers will return to the stock market in the next few months, less than two years after its £93 million management buyout. Yesterday the group announced pre-tax profits in 1989 of £14.7 million, up 44 per cent.

## Tri-ang on sale

Mayflower, the fabrics and packaging group, has put Tri-ang toys on sale.

## Wyeveale nurtures profit

MICHAEL POWELL



Wyeveale Garden Centres' pre-tax profits rose 145 per cent to £1.64 million in the year to December. Turnover for the 19 centres grew 24 per cent to £16.3 million, said Mr Christopher Powell, the chairman, pictured after planting a

magnolia tree at St Paul's Cathedral, London. Earnings per share fell to 13.3p from 15.5p on the effect of a £3.6 million issue of convertible preference shares. The final dividend is 3.6p, lifting the total 20 per cent to 5.4p.

## Publisher's plan goes to the MMC

Mr David Sullivan, publisher of *Sunday Sport*, has had his intention to take a controlling stake in the Bristol Evening Post referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Mr Sullivan owns 7.5 per cent of the newspaper group and plans to increase this stake substantially. The Trade and Industry Secretary has referred the matter under the Fair Trading Act 1973. This demands a referral when such a transfer of interests is made by a proprietor of newspapers with a paid circulation of more than 500,000 a day.

Should Mr Sullivan gain clearance, he will have interests in newspapers selling considerably more than this each day.

## Weaker economy 'may boost Hays'

By Matthew Beal

Mr Ronnie Frost, chairman of Hays, the business services group, believes any downturn in the business economy could be good news for his company because of its involvement with the recruitment of accountants.

He said: "You require accountants more when things are bad than when they are good. Companies need to find out where their losses are coming from."

Mr Frost was speaking as Hays unveiled its first set of figures since its ill-fated stock market flotation in October last year.

The £393 million placing coincided with the week of the stock market's big fall, which

resulted in 92 per cent of the placed shares being left with the sub-underwriters. However, the last of the company's loose shareholders departed three weeks ago, according to Mr Frost.

In the six months to December, actual pre-tax profits rose 28 per cent to £21.3 million. On a pro forma basis, assuming the post-float structure had been in place since 1988, the improvement was a more modest 13 per cent to £27.3 million. The interim dividend is 1.15p.

A 19 per cent rise in operating profits to £29.2 million was backed by a strong performance in all three of the company's divisions.

## Waiting for Day to break news

Sir Graham Day, boss of Rover and chairman of Cadbury Schweppes, has lined himself up another chairman-ship, that of British Aerospace's new personal communication network. Full details of the network are still shrouded in secrecy, and the company is trying to keep a tight lid on Sir Graham's exact role before a formal announcement this week. BAE's space systems offshoot is part of a consortium awarded a PCN licence by the Department of Trade and Industry in December. The consortium includes Matra of France, Pacific Telesis of San Francisco and Millicom. Sir Graham's post is another addition to his various non-executive duties; suggestions in the electronics industry are that the managing director, and the man in charge of the day-to-day running as the service approaches its 1992 launch, will come from Pacific Telesis.

## Call to the arms

The deft things some company chairman will do to drum up business: John Young, chairman of the South London brewery of that name, will soon be appearing on posters and in advertisements dressed as Lord Kitchener, field marshal's uniform and all, pushing his company's beers. Young believes it will benefit from the relaxations brought in by last year's MMC report, and the slogan is "Your customers need Young's beers."

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### No soft option for K&H

Two brave traditional options traders who struck out on their own after long careers with Smith New Court put their futures on the line this week when K&H Options started trading. Phil Kitchener and Bob Holt set up shop with the backing of Ensign Trust after they left Smith New Court three months ago. Back office and administrative duties are carried out by the Dutch bank Kas Clearing Agents, from

whose Salisbury House offices the new business operates. "The people who are doing the best in the City at the moment are those in niche specialist businesses," says Phil. But the current trading climate is surely not one to encourage new business ventures. "It may seem a bit foolhardy, but people who go out on a limb when the times seem wrong are very often dead right in the end."

## Lawyers wiggled

Sir Peter Thompson, outgoing chairman of NFC, of worker-shareholder fame, has always been a man of the people with a healthy distrust of corporate protocol. He celebrated his last NFC annual meeting at

Blackpool recently with the following suggestion after "fluffing" his rehearsed lines. Corporate lawyers, he said gruffly, should replace laboratory rats. Sir Peter cited three reasons: corporate lawyers would be less missed by humanity, the laboratory assistants would be less attached to them and there are some things even rats will not do.

## Noble game

After the appropriation of greyhound racing by City slickers, I have spotted another social trend in the making. County NatWest's European mergers and acquisitions team has been appointed to sell some bingo halls for the Noble Organisation, after performing a similar service for Greenall Whitley. In the team's favour as it pitched for the business, it claims, was its "sophisticated knowledge of the game."

## Nigel takes a stake

I am pleased to see Nigel Lawson is putting his money where his mouth is. He has just paid slightly more than £4,000 for 715 Barclays Bank shares following his appointment as a director. The 715 represent his entire holding. Did he have to sell his Treasury bonds to raise the money, I wonder?

## Crying's over

Argentina, for all its economic woes, is certainly popular these days. Lord King has reopened air links to Buenos Aires and even the Royal Navy has been secretly playing football with Argentinians on South Georgia. Now City institutions are lining up this week to take part in a \$850-950 million Argentine debt-to-equity conversion. Midland Montagu hopes to have in the bag by Friday. Sir Kit McMahon's bank, which has had its share of troubles with Latin America, is the only British house involved, with the rest of the interest coming from the Continent, Japan, North America and Argentina.

Every chairman dreads that inevitable moment when a shareholder gets up at the annual meeting and asks why there are no lady directors. Allen Sheppard at Grand Metropolitan faced just one such only a couple of weeks ago. Next year he should have at least half of an answer. Rosemary Thorne has been made group financial controller, just a step down from full board membership.

Martin Waller

## GROWTH THROUGH MANAGEMENT

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE HALF YEAR

Unaudited results for the six months ended 31 December 1989

	1989	1988	Increase
Turnover	179.48m	139.31m	29%
Pre tax profit	11.25m	10.19m	10%
Earnings per share	5.9p	5.5p	7%
Dividends per share	2.0p	1.5p	33%

"I am pleased to report the results of the Group for the six months ended 31 December 1989. Although growth opportunities may be limited whilst high interest rates continue and the current economic climate prevails, we are confident that Raine Industries will continue to trade satisfactorily. The Board is confident that shareholders will have no reason to feel disappointed with the full year's outcome."

Peter W. Parkin, Chief Executive

Copies of the Interim Report are obtainable from Raine Industries plc, Ashbourne Road, Maccworth, Derby DE3 4NB.

# RAINE INDUSTRIES







HK names  
ex-chief  
of Lase  
as insider

Groups grow

Raine advan

Offer clear

ED OPTIONS

Options

# Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your debt there price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Claim rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Standard Chart (ns)	Books, Diagrams	
2	Miller (Stanley)	Building Roads	
3	Premier	Oil/Gas	
4	Rain Ltd	Building Roads	
5	RMC Op (ns)	Building Roads	
6	Flacker King	Property	
7	Baynes (Charles)	Industrials A-D	
8	Parrell Elec	Electricals	
9	Chick (Wm)	Industrials A-D	
10	Picard Garner	Shops, London	
11	Orbit	Property	
12	Raistrain	Industrials L-R	
13	Woodside	Oil/Gas	
14	Murray Ester	Electricals	
15	Perkinson	Building Roads	
16	Holmes Protection	Industrials E-K	
17	Yorkshire Chem	Chemicals/Plas	
18	CALA	Building Roads	
19	Gibson (M)	Building Roads	
20	Wyndham Eng	Industrials S-Z	
21	Hall Eng	Industrials E-K	
22	Redford (ns)	Building Roads	
23	BPS Int (ns)	Building Roads	
24	Robinson (Thomas)	Industrials L-R	
25	Balfour	Industrials A-D	
26	Plan	Draps/Stores	
27	Barnham	Electricals	
28	Mackintosh	Industrials L-R	
29	Laidlaw Wine Co	Draps/Stores	
30	London Hill	Industrials A-D	
31	Shibby D	Industrials A-D	
32	Pittman (ns)	Industrials S-Z	
33	Blackie (Wm)	Industrials S-Z	
34	PH Foods	Food	
35	Sandhouse (ns)	Draps/Stores	
36	Nichols (JH) (Vint)	Food	
37	Ne-Swift	Industrials L-R	
38	Kingfisher (ns)	Draps/Stores	
39	Skinner	Industrials S-Z	
40	Flac Art Dev	Draps/Stores	
41	BICC (ns)	Electricals	
42	Expanet	Industrials E-K	
43	Meyer Int	Building Roads	
44	Stall (ns)	Oil/Gas	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS			
NAME	High	Low	Price

SHORTS (Under Five Years)			
NAME	High	Low	Price

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS			
NAME	High	Low	Price

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS			
NAME	High	Low	Price

UNRATED			
NAME	High	Low	Price

INDEX-LINKED			
NAME	High	Low	Price

BANK DISCOUNT HP			
NAME	High	Low	Price

ELECTRICALS			
NAME	High	Low	Price

DRAPERY, STORES			
NAME	High	Low	Price

HOTELS, CATERERS			
NAME	High	Low	Price

INDUSTRIALS A-D			
NAME	High	Low	Price

S-Z			
NAME	High	Low	Price

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS			
NAME	High	Low	Price

OIL, GAS			
NAME	High	Low	Price

TOBACCOS			
NAME	High	Low	Price

TRANSPORT			
NAME	High	Low	Price

WATER			
NAME	High	Low	Price

MOTOR, AIRCRAFT			
NAME	High	Low	Price

TEXTILES			
NAME	High	Low	Price

SHOES, LEATHER			
NAME	High	Low	Price

OVERSEAS TRADERS			
NAME	High	Low	Price

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING			
NAME	High	Low	Price

PROPERTY			
NAME	High	Low	Price

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES Further decline

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 26. Dealings end on Friday. Settlement day Monday. Settlement day March 19. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is re-priced. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (ns) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 25).

NAME	High	Low	Open	Close	Change	Vol

BREWERS						

BUILDING, ROADS						

FINANCE, LAND						

FINANCIAL TRUSTS						

FOODS						

L-R						

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS						

DRAPERY, STORES						

HOTELS, CATERERS						

INDUSTRIALS A-D						

S-Z						

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS						

OIL, GAS						

TOBACCOS						

TRANSPORT						

WATER						

NAME	High	Low	Open	Close	Change	Vol

BREWERS						

BUILDING, ROADS						

FINANCE, LAND						

FINANCIAL TRUSTS						

FOODS						

L-R						

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS						

DRAPERY, STORES						

HOTELS, CATERERS						

INDUSTRIALS A-D						

S-Z						

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS						

OIL, GAS						

TOBACCOS						

TRANSPORT						

WATER						

NAME	High	Low	Open	Close	Change	Vol

BREWERS						

BUILDING, ROADS						

FINANCE, LAND						

FINANCIAL TRUSTS						

FOODS						

L-R						

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS						

DRAPERY, STORES						

HOTELS, CATERERS						

INDUSTRIALS A-D						

S-Z						

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS						

OIL, GAS						

TOBACCOS						

TRANSPORT						

WATER						

NAME	High	Low	Open	Close	Change	Vol

BREWERS						

BUILDING, ROADS						

FINANCE, LAND						

FINANCIAL TRUSTS						

FOODS						

L-R						

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS						

DRAPERY, STORES						

HOTELS, CATERERS						

INDUSTRIALS A-D						

S-Z						

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS						

OIL, GAS						

TOBACCOS						

TRANSPORT						

WATER						

# Portfolio PLATINUM

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NAME	High	Low	Open	Close	Change	Vol

OVERSEAS TRADERS						

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING						

PROPERTY						

SHOES, LEATHER						

TEXTILES						

TOBACCOS						

TRANSPORT						

WATER						

MOTOR, AIRCRAFT						

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS						

OIL, GAS						

TOBACCOS						

TRANSPORT						

WATER						

MOTOR, AIRCRAFT						

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS						

OIL, GAS						

TOBACCOS						

TRANSPORT						

WATER						

MOTOR, AIRCRAFT						

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS						

OIL, GAS						

TOBACCOS						

TRANSPORT						

WATER						
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Moving



ANTIQUES & CO.

MAJOR IN THE



## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

[illegible]

## DON FINANCIAL FUTURES

FT-SE 100			Premium open interest 25000			Options			High			Low			Close			Vol		
Mar 90	294.0	229.0	294.0	229.0	229.0	Mar 90	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	
Mar 90	294.0	229.0	294.0	229.0	229.0	Mar 90	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	89.83	
Three Month Sterling						US Treasury Bond														
Mar 90	84.73	84.76	84.71	84.76	84.76	Jun 90	92.08	92.08	92.08	92.08	92.08	92.08	92.08	92.08	92.08	92.08	92.08	92.08	92.08	
Mar 90	84.83	84.86	84.81	84.84	84.84	Long Gilt														
Three Month Eurodollar						Japanese Govt Bond														
Mar 90	91.15	91.15	91.12	91.15	91.15	Jun 90	93.05	93.05	93.05	93.05	93.05	93.05	93.05	93.05	93.05	93.05	93.05	93.05	93.05	
Mar 90	91.45	91.45	91.42	91.45	91.45	German Govt Bond														
Three Month Euro DM						Jun 90														
Mar 90	91.41	91.41	91.41	91.45	91.45	Mar 90	91.25	91.25	91.25	91.25	91.25	91.25	91.25	91.25	91.25	91.25	91.25	91.25	91.25	
Mar 90	91.41	91.41	91.41	91.45	91.45															

## COMMODITIES

### LONDON FIVE

Cocoa		AMT Futures		Official prices/volume previous day		Rustall Welf	
Mar 90	894-893	Mar 785-792	(t/tonnes)	Cash	1	May	Yon
Mar 90	713-712	Mar 785-792	May				
Mar 90	723-722	May	723-722				
Mar 90	747-746	May	747-746				
Mar 90	757-756	May	757-756				
Mar 90	767-766	May	767-766				
Mar 90	777-776	May	777-776				
Mar 90	787-786	May	787-786				
Mar 90	797-796	May	797-796				
Mar 90	807-806	May	807-806				
Mar 90	817-816	May	817-816				
Mar 90	827-826	May	827-826				
Mar 90	837-836	May	837-836				
Mar 90	847-846	May	847-846				
Mar 90	857-856	May	857-856				
Mar 90	867-866	May	867-866				
Mar 90	877-876	May	877-876				
Mar 90	887-886	May	887-886				
Mar 90	897-896	May	897-896				
Mar 90	907-906	May	907-906				
Mar 90	917-916	May	917-916				
Mar 90	927-926	May	927-926				
Mar 90	937-936	May	937-936				
Mar 90	947-946	May	947-946				
Mar 90	957-956	May	957-956				
Mar 90	967-966	May	967-966				
Mar 90	977-976	May	977-976				
Mar 90	987-986	May	987-986				
Mar 90	997-996	May	997-996				

### LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Copper		Cash		3 months		12 months		Steel	
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0
Mar 90	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	1003.0	

## COMMODITIES

[illegible]



1



## MEDIA &amp; MARKETING

## Two cheers for the licence fee

The other day Paul Johnson welcomed the promised ending of the licence fee on the grounds that it would place broadcasting on the same footing as print, fighting every inch of the way for its commercial life. It seems a beguiling prospect, shimmering in a haze of apparent fairness. Why should broadcasters continue to have special funding privileges? Of course, there are problems. The chief is that reliance solely on commercially raised monies, mostly advertising, would leave the broadcasting business short by a billion pounds or so of what it now spends. The Peacock committee concluded that advertising is not infinitely extendable, and settled therefore for the most modest of extensions into the BBC: on a split vote, it plumped for advertising on Radios 1 and 2, but not for the more expensive radio, nor for television. The recommendation had the ring of gesture.

Hard hats would no doubt tell broadcasters that they must find post-licence financial strapping through other means, as does print. The established mechanism in print is the cover price, that direct charge that can, if necessary, rise or fall to compensate for thinner funding from elsewhere. So, for example, a magazine such as *The Spectator* can persist on a modest circulation by charging a sizeable cover price from willing subscribers, of whom I am one. It is a neat and flexible mechanism, but it does not easily find its equivalent in broadcasting. True, the emerging satellite channels are now charging a subscription cover price for their movie channels, as it were, instead of payment at the box office. Similar pricing is tried elsewhere for sport, this time instead of the ticket at the gate. But try extending this principle into the mixed and generalized channels of conventional television and radio, and you encounter a run of improbabilities.

The subscription notion operates best where the signal can be impeded, so that non-subscribers are cut off. This can work for television, but not sensibly for radio. Then, where channels are mixed and general, you discover different appetites finding differing satisfactions throughout a day's listening or viewing. Under the existing payments system, the precise disposition of these satisfactions carries no daily payment implication: we retain an ability to switch to and from without incurring special financial penalty. A fully-fledged metered-out system

would have to carry special charges for those switching in and out of the subscription mix, no doubt in the process deterring them. But turning viewers and listeners away from what they enjoy would be a perverse outcome to an exercise intended to bring money and customers in, through a more elegant and presumably fairer equivalent of cover price.

Yet this difficulty in getting broadcasting to behave in its internal pricing arrangements as does print in no way illegitimizes broadcasting. Scratch the surface of the present crude and rounded-up subscription mechanism we call the licence fee, and you discover startling operational efficiencies. Even after the next inflation-linked licence increase, a calculation between monies paid and viewing and listening enjoyed tells you that the itemized if hidden charge works out at less than 3p per hour "consumed".

Yet for all its demonstrable modesty and blunt efficiency, the licence fee cannot escape the talent of arbitrary imposition. It is hard to find a politician anywhere who will give full-throated support. Indeed, there is every likelihood that our political and commenting classes will talk themselves and us out of the licence-fee system before the century ends. The governing party is already pointed firmly in that direction.

But, as with abolition of the rates, the end position is that if the monies are not raised somehow, the enterprise fails, and there is no sign that the public would want it to fail.

So how do tomorrow's politicians propose to call up the monies that equate to broadcasting's missing cover price? The Treasury could pick up the tab, but is unlikely to want to. Alternatively, the licence charge could be radically re-designed, on Peacockian lines, to dispense support through a Public Service Broadcasting Council to those parts of the broadcasting arena that advertising, subscription or sponsors could not reach.

Such a development would end the BBC's special status and, too, the occasional odium involved, but at the price of setting up an Orwellian quango with powers of intervention across all broadcasting outlets. Libertarians might well look on such a prospect with alarm, and should even now pause before the plunge.

Brian Wenham

Western agencies are getting ready to invade Eastern Europe. Geraldine Bedell reports

## Russia's ad revolution



An editor's envy: Vladimir Starikov can boast 33 million loyal subscribers

Last week the world's largest print medium became available to advertisers. *Argumenty i Fakty* (arguments and facts), which claims a readership of half the adult population of the USSR, announced that it would take half a page per weekly issue of advertising. Space, its western agents added apologetically, is limited because of paper shortages.

Hours later, *Business Week*, the American news and business monthly published by McGraw Hill, announced that it is to pilot a Russian-language edition for sale in the USSR in May, for a September launch. It will have an initial circulation of 50,000, and take advertising, paid for in US dollars, at similar rates (\$9,000 for a colour page) and with a similar cost per thousand to its European edition.

These moves reflect great excitement among advertisers and agencies about the potential of the new, freer markets of Eastern Europe. Young and Rubicam, the first international advertising agency with permanent western staff in Moscow, points out that the Soviet Union covers one sixth of the world's surface, 11 time zones, and more than 280 million people in 15 republics.

*Argumenty i Fakty* has 33 million loyal subscribers, and a 15,000-letter posting a week. Mr Vladimir Starikov, its liberal editor, attributes his success in Sunday's Soviet elections, at least in part, to the support of its readers. At the end of last year he was almost dismissed by the Politburo for criticising Mr Mikhail Gorbachev.

Advertising rates are not yet confirmed, but are likely to be around \$6,500 for a black-and-white half page, says its UK agent, Mr Stuart Christie. "Clearly it is in no one's interest to advertise commodities that are not widely available," he says. "But for companies wishing to 'brand' or provide information about products or services which are as yet unknown in the USSR, this is an important opportunity."

This vast market brings problems as much as opportunities. The Soviet Union comprises 120 distinct languages and cultures. But there has been almost no market research into what people want; distribution systems are dismal; there is still a shortage of media of the right kind; and what there is is expensive.

Mr Gerry Burandt, a former Young and Rubicam worldwide account director in New York, is now chief executive of Young and RubicamSovero, Y & R's 50-50 Soviet joint venture with what was formerly the Soviet Union's sole communications agency for domestic exports and foreign imports. "At the moment there is certainly no need to stimulate sales," he says.

Products disappear as fast as they are put on the shelves (there are still

Heinz, Du Pont, General Electric and Chevron. But it is a long haul: to produce its burgers, McDonald's had to buy farms and cattle, impose unheard-of quality control procedures and teach staff to be polite.

Mr Alexander Brody, world chief executive of Ogilvy & Mather, which has an agency in Moscow, says the main task at present is to provide marketing services. "We are devising strategies for products ready for when they can be launched. What we are seeing at the moment is a loosening of the strings, but it is not clear how fast it will happen. It is not particularly in Gorbachev's interests to have a heated-up consumer market, with demands for products that may not be available, pushing up prices."

Ogilvy & Mather and Y & R also have agency interests in Hungary, where consumers are already used to advertising that is more than producing brochures and running trade fairs. Ogilvy & Mather has started a new joint venture with Mahir, Hungary's largest agency, and handles local clients (Carmax department store, Posta Bank) and multinationals (Philips and Shell).

Young & Rubicam Hungary (Y & R) bought a 50 per cent stake in Hungary's second-largest agency, previously called Skala Reklam Studio, produces 100 television commercials a year and employs 80 people. But if this suggests a western-style agency, it is misleading: there are only two telephone lines into the agency, and the fax is on one of them.

Things have a long way to go. Until recently, Y & R had a guard on its Moscow photocopy, although he has now been removed. But as Mr Hans Lange, European vice-chairman of Ogilvy & Mather has pointed out, perestroika may not have delivered a higher standard of living, but it has given Soviet people great hope of one, and that Mr Gorbachev is one of the world's greatest communications professionals.

Czechoslovakia is generally reckoned to be the next market for western agencies — an industrialized country which seems to be steering clear of nationalism and is apparently firmly behind an effective leader.

The problems in Eastern Europe are clearly immense, but so are the opportunities. Both Y & R and Ogilvy & Mather report that their repaying work in the Soviet Union is likely to pay off in the first year — although where they are paid in roubles, they can't take them out.

"I have been in this business many years, and bought and sold companies all over the world," Mr Brody says. "I would have been extremely surprised if you had told me a couple of years ago that the two I would break even with, or make a profit on in the first year, would be Hungary and the USSR."



WOOD GREEN ANIMAL SHELTERS

## ASSISTANT MARKETING MANAGER £17K plus car Hertfordshire

Wood Green Animal Shelters is a dynamic, fast-growing charity, specialising in the care and re-homing of all types of animals. Our wide-ranging work also involves education projects and the promotion of responsible pet ownership.

With several years' experience of 'hands on' marketing, preferably in the consumer sector, you will be thoroughly familiar with advertising, direct marketing, PR including radio interviews and liaison with journalists, print/production and the organisation of events/exhibitions. Experience in an animal related organisation could be an advantage.

This is not a job for a beginner. You must be able to 'hit the ground running', aware of the pitfalls and opportunities in each part of the marketing mix.

To succeed, you will need empathy with the charity's aims, plus sound commercial experience and mature judgement. You should be flexible, creative and able to work under pressure. Strong interpersonal and presentation skills are also highly desirable.

If this sounds like you, write (inspiring) together with your CV to Mrs:

Sandra Lewis, Marketing and Fundraising Manager

Wood Green Animal Shelters, Cheshill Road, Heydon

New Raydon, Hertfordshire, SG8 5PN.

Telephone: (0763) 535323

## MARKETING MANAGER

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Bywater Technology is one of the international leaders in consultancy, training and products in Total Quality Management.

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The ideal candidate will be aged between 35-40 years with management experience, a proven track record in marketing or sales in services and products, be capable of operating in an international environment and versed in Total Quality concepts.

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Applications for this challenging role should be sent to Alan Blackham, Managing Director, Bywater Technology Limited, 119 Guildford Street, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 9AL.

Bywater TECHNOLOGY

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Never before has there been such overt career openings for experienced Sales professionals to join an organisation investing heavily in a range of products which will give the Sales Force a unique concept to market and sell.

It is essential that you regard yourself as a good business manager, whose commercial awareness and strong lines of reasoning are invaluable in all selling situations. As a tenacious developer of clients, you will need to be adept at presenting sophisticated concepts to senior decision-makers, aware that credibility and excellent negotiation skills are vital.

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Morgan Keating ASSOCIATES

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## Marketing Manager

Edinburgh Based

The Life Association of Scotland Limited, part of the worldwide Nationale Nederlanden Group, is one of the country's leading companies in the field of financial services, providing a comprehensive range of products and services to corporate and private clients throughout the U.K.

LAS are embarking on a major expansion programme and now seek a Marketing Manager who will be responsible for all aspects of marketing strategy and operations of the Group.

It is unlikely that anyone with less than 5 years background in the financial services industry will have the necessary expertise. A marketing degree or equivalent qualification will be an advantage.

We offer a highly competitive package including subsidised mortgage facility, non-contributory pension scheme, company car and relocation assistance where appropriate.

Applications for this post should be in writing to Mr R D Bee, Personnel Manager.



Life Association of Scotland  
Financial Services since 1838  
10 George Street Edinburgh EH2 2YH

## CITY OPPORTUNITIES IN SALES

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Based in our London offices the following vacancies exist:

## Mortgage Sales Executives

Comprehensive mortgage broking via a broad range of lenders to a fast expanding client base. Ref JKT 1.

## Private Medicine Intermediaries

Dealing at a high level in the competitive and complex world of private medical schemes. Ref JKT 2.

## Sales Consultants

Advising clients on personal and corporate financial planning ranging from simple insurance to sophisticated investments. Ref JKT 3.

If you wish to apply for positions JKT 1 or JKT 2 please send your full CV to Annette Carolan, Personnel Department, The M I Group, 91 Wimpole Street, London W1M 7DA.

Applicants applying for these positions should have specific industry experience.

Applicants applying for position JKT 3 contact: Belinda Harper on 01-240 1400; Julie Huxley on 01-623 3469; Edie Craddock on 01-436 1845; Yvonne Edwards on 01-409 3019.

Details of the financial packages will be provided prior to the interview.



PROGRAMMES FOR WEALTH

## Scotland MARKETING MANAGER circa £25k + Car + Benefits

Clydesdale Group is Scotland's fastest developing Electrical Retailer with 90 High Street Branches and Superstores throughout Scotland. Our subsidiary Companies specialise in providing financial, rental and insurance services.

To support our growth programme and our ambitions towards market leadership, we require a talented person to fill the challenging role of Marketing Manager.

This post requires an individual capable of excellent planning and co-ordinating at every level who is able to embrace a wide range of activities including market research, extensive above and below the line advertising, communications campaigns and quality of service.

The Marketing Manager will report directly to the Commercial Director and will be responsible for promotions and other professional marketing staff.

Applicants should have a Marketing or relevant Business Studies Degree allied to at least 8 years' marketing experience preferably within a retail environment. Innovative and excellent communications and interpersonal skills and the ability to work under pressure are prerequisites for this post.

Please write giving full career details to: Miss M M Hogg, Personnel Manager, Clydesdale Group Ltd, 58 Southcroft Road, Rutherglen, GLASGOW G73 1UX.

Clydesdale

## SALES MANAGER DESIGNATE £20,000

Forwarded after 6 months. Applicant to be a successful sales manager in a retail environment. A successful sales manager is needed to set up and manage a small team of sales representatives.

A second European language and general knowledge of the retail market are essential. Salary negotiable on successful completion of probation. Please send your CV to: Charles Day, Assistant, 95 Marlborough St, London W1N 7TA.

## MARKETING ASSISTANT CIRCA £12,000

Rare opportunity to join this prestigious information Association based in EC1 Reporting to the Marketing Manager, the successful applicant will be preferably educated to degree level and have excellent communication skills. The work is currently being computerized so computer literacy is important. This is an excellent opportunity to gain experience in all aspects of marketing and promotional activities. Training will be given and the person chosen will deal with enquiries and play a major role in increasing membership, plus some secretarial duties.

For more information, telephone Mrs Karen Morgan 01-236 1686 Kingston Park, Cam.

## SPIRAL SCRATCH ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER CAMBRIDGE

...for rapidly expanding national record collectors magazine. We are a small and enthusiastic team working in an informal and busy atmosphere and we need an experienced sales person to run our advertising department. You will need to be able to communicate a sound track record in sales and show us that you are ready and able to accept the responsibility and autonomy that this position offers. We are flexible as to age and experience, but would require that the successful applicant will be in their late 20s with at least two years' sales experience. Salary negotiable.

An attractive salary/commission package is on offer to the right candidate. Please send to the first selection, enclosing C.V., to Mr David, Spiral Scratch, 122 Leam Road, Cambridge, CB4 2EP.



# Putting words in the picture

The co-operation between the *Daily Mirror* and TV's *Cook Report* could set a journalistic trend. Alan Franks reports

Even to seasoned media-watchers, the spectacle of Central Television's *Cook Report* broadcasting its allegations against Arthur Scargill on Monday, the same day that the *Daily Mirror* carried the story on its front page, looked like something more than a coincidence. It was, in fact, an act of complicity born of pragmatism, with its origins running back to the autumn of last year, when the programme and the newspaper, each pursuing their own lines of inquiry, kept running into one another's evidence. A fortnight ago, when it was clear that the two teams had unearthed material that appeared to corroborate and complement each other, Central and the *Mirror*, under Roy Greenhalgh, its new editor, agreed to synchronize their scoops.

Although an unexpected pair of bedfellows, thrown together more by chance than design, both camps now agree that the success of their operation could well become a precedent for similar joint ventures in a costly and time-consuming area of investigative documentary.

Without that complicity, the whole thing could have ended as it had begun - a classic blind race between two utterly different competitors. On the one hand, Terry Pattinson, a tabloid veteran of the industrial scene, leaning so long and hard on interviewees' tables that his elbows began to bleed, and on the other a presenter made so public by television that even his presence in a small town square gives the locals a sense of impending scandal. The chase may have ended in a supervised dead heat, but not without a few red herrings carefully laid to nuzzle the opposition.

In terms of Monday's disclosures, the old pencil Press had been faster off the mark, and better versed in the backwoods of union politics. Pattinson started in earnest last July 31, when he spoke to Roger Windsor, the former chief executive of the National Union of Mineworkers, who subsequently alleged that part of a £163,000 payment from Libya during the 1984-85 pit strike had been used by Mr Scargill, the president, and Peter Heathfield, the general secretary, to repay loans on their homes. Both men have strongly denied the allegations. Within a month he had

pieced together the basis of the paper's Monday report on the circumstances of the alleged Libyan connection. But it still had to be thoroughly checked.

Meanwhile, up in Birmingham, Central was putting out some early feelers for a "miners five years on" programme. There was no hint of the Windsor allegations, nor even that the material was going to form the basis of a Roger Cook presentation. But as the weeks passed, and producer Clive Entwistle and researcher Bryan Carter probed further, a number of hints and suggestions came their way from miners who had been involved in the bitter year-long stoppage, but were reluctant to talk.

"They were not hints or suggestions that could be proven," Entwistle says. "That was the terribly frustrating thing. There was a certain amount of talk about money that had come from Russia, and a lot of people said they could not understand exactly what had happened to that money. We knew very well that there had been Russian miners' union officials coming over to this country and asking their counterparts in the NUM, particularly in south Wales, what had happened; also that British officials had in turn been over to Russia."

At this point, some time in October, with what we had been told on the one hand, and with Arthur Scargill having said that no money had come from Russia on the other, it was clear that there was a conflict emerging. As if to add an extra layer of competition, Entwistle had himself once interviewed Colonel Gaddafi of Libya for the *Mirror*.

In late September Entwistle told Pattinson that he had also stumbled on the alleged Libyan link. "He told me that everywhere he went the people he spoke to told him that they had already talked to me. He tried every trick in the book to make me talk. He's a very clever man. I gave him two or three red herrings - not lies, but leads which sent him the wrong way."

"Then, very brilliantly, he went back through all the press cuttings and all the footage, and he deduced that Libya had to be the story. I said to him: 'Well, if you think that's the big one, I should go for it.' He then said that they had found Mumpaz



Television teamworkers: (from left) Bryan Carter, Roger Cook and Mike Towson, editor of the *Cook Report*

Abbasi (the Doncaster shopkeeper who Mr Windsor claims was the middleman through whom the Libyan money was channelled), and that it might be a good idea if we could now start to think in terms of co-operation."

If Pattinson and his three colleagues who were assigned to the story - reporters Frank Thorne and Ted Oliver and Phil Spencer, a Manchester-based photographer - had hitherto been ahead in pursuit of the alleged Libyan link, Central then took the lead in the supposed Russian connection. "Clive's great coup was to get the programme a lead into Moscow," Pattinson says. "He managed to use a relative of Gorbachev. The link was something that I had been trying to confirm since 1988, when a delegation of Russian miners came to the NUM conference at Great Yarmouth, and I had heard from a member of the union's executive that the Russians were unhappy that our miners had apparently not received any of the money in the course of the dispute."

Pattinson approached Richard Stott, the *Mirror's* then editor, to inform him of the "minor problem" of what Central knew, and the two organizations agreed to pool their information. Crucially for Central, this meant that they now had access to Mr Windsor, one of the key witnesses, whose "exclusivity" had been secured by the paper. Both sides agree that once the principle of pooling had been agreed, there was no withholding of information.

"We both emptied all the contents of our cupboards on to the common floor, so to speak," Entwistle says. "There were various points throughout this saga when we could each have screwed it up for the other. We could probably have broadcast earlier than we did, and no doubt they could likewise have published earlier than they did. As it turned out, we both needed the information that each other had, and were extremely grateful to get it."

Pattinson agrees that such co-operations could indeed be the way ahead, even though he sees that the trophy of exclusivity, scarcely less

coveted among television journalists than by their brothers in the Press, could be compromised.

But whatever the long-term effects, the short-term ones have been pronounced. The *Mirror* has enough material to run every day for the next fortnight, and the *Cook Report* is "actively considering" a further programme next week.

"The phones have been running hot all morning," Cook says. "There have been dozens of calls. I cannot tell you what they said, but there were some who were initially reluctant to talk but who, having seen the programme, are saying: 'I've wanted to say that all along.' In fact, at least one of them wants the chance to appear if we do decide to screen a follow-up."

Last week on this page Charles Wintour remarked that it is still the Press which takes the lead in setting the agenda for news. This week provided a notable instance of a dead heat, even if there are Fleet Street chauvinists about who will claim a technical victory by about 12 hours.

## Guardian of the Sabbath?

The taking of a stake in the *Sunday* Correspondent leads to speculation

The group which owns *The Guardian* is making its first foray into Sunday newspapers by taking a stake in the six-month-old *Sunday Correspondent*. It is part of a £10 million fundraising exercise, announced yesterday, to ensure the future of Britain's second-newest weekly broadsheet.

Although the circulation of the *Correspondent* is, at 220,000, well below its first-year target figure of 362,000, the management of the paper yesterday denied that the £10 million is a cash injection without which it might have faced the prospect of closure.

Nick Shott, the *Correspondent's* chief executive, said that this extra capital, added to the initial £18 million raised for the business, represented a major vote of confidence which would give the organization the opportunity to compete on equal terms with other competitors.

*Guardian* and Manchester Evening News (GMEN) becomes the second biggest shareholder in the newspaper, with 16.6 per cent, while the Tribune Company of Chicago is increasing its holding to 17.7 per cent.

*The Guardian's* parent group already owns a number of UK regional newspaper and magazine titles. It has also recently acquired the company - Broadcast Communications, which televises the proceedings in Parliament, and has bought a stake in the Spanish newspaper *El Mundo*. Both *The Guardian* and the *Correspondent* yesterday denied that this latest move heralded a *Guardian* on Sunday style of newspaper.

Jim Markwick, managing director of *The Guardian* and a director of GMEN, said: "It is no secret that the group has a long-expressed interest in developing a role in the Sunday market, and in the past has not ruled out the possi-

ity of starting a Sunday *Guardian*. We have also said that if ever the *Observer* were to come up for sale, we would be interested."

He denied that the *Correspondent* had been on the brink of collapse, and stressed that the raising of fresh capital was a means of providing the newspaper with a more solid financial base. "Nothing I can say or do will prevent predictions being made about a *Guardian* on Sunday," he added. "I cannot prove that such predictions are wrong, except by not doing it. What GMEN has done is to make a small but significant investment in the Sunday market; this makes our group and *The Guardian* a player where it was not a player before. It also follows an investment by a large American company with whom we feel comfortable."

The other original investors are also being invited to inject fresh capital into Sunday newspapers. Publishing plc, the *Correspondent's* parent company, through a fully underwritten issue of new shares. Prudential and Globe Investment Trust plc is among those which have already agreed to take part. In addition to these new shareholders, the company is now negotiating new loan finance arrangements which are expected to raise another £3 million.

"We had always planned to go out and get more money," said Mr Shott. "And if you are going to get more money, then you may as well get a lot of it. But it is important to remember that we did not go to GMEN. They came to us before Christmas, and said they recognized that our business plan did not assume the launch of the *Independent* on Sunday. We had always said we would wait until March or April to evaluate our need for extra funds."

A.F.

BBC BBC BBC

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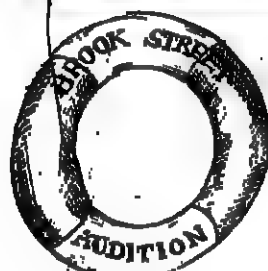
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R.S.V.P.  
£14,000

Our clients are five Entertainment specialists with a difference. A highly-established, successful concern, they are currently seeking a flexible and resourceful individual to join their close-knit, hard-working team. You must be a methodical worker with a good eye for detail; possess lots of initiative and organisational capability. A well-presented, confident outlook is essential for this exciting role where ability to communicate at every level is vital. Fast typing 60 wpm + a solid working background to date is requested. Small, busy environment in W. London. Tube nearby but car driver is useful. Call 01-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING &amp; SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

Famous Name Cocktail  
£15,500 + unrivalled benefits

One of the UK's largest, most broadly-based international concerns offers an involving role for a polished, organised individual. You will be joining an impressive, dynamic set-up offering genuine involvement and excellent prospects. Working for three extremely nice Financial Wizards you will bring to the fore your excellent organisational flair and admin ability. Besides providing general secretarial support, you will liaise with clients and senior-level management. Ability to prioritise and fort-hold effectively is essential. Sound skills (80/55). Age 25+ with previous senior-level experience? Call 01-493 0713 for details.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING &amp; SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

A City Professional?

£16,500

Unrivalled career opening for a strong, motivated self-starter with this key name in International Merchant Banking. Their high-flying Head of Corporate Finance is in need of an articulate, organised PA to act as his right-hand and fulfill a responsible role. A stimulating role, never routine; you will be relied upon to administer and organise his business commitments; oversee other secretaries' workload and co-ordinate the department's administration. Immaculate presentation with polished communication skills vital for VIP client liaison. First-class skills (100/70). Age 24+ with similar background? Call 01-493 5787.

GORDON-YATES

## Careers in the Arts...

Stimulating openings are offered by our client, one of London's most prestigious Art Dealers. They enjoy a worldwide reputation and currently seek two strong, organised individuals for key roles within their organisation. As Secretary to two directors, both experts in their respective fields, you must be flexible as you will handle everything from showing clients around the gallery to assisting with photography and exhibitions etc. Secondly, consolidate your new secretarial skills as you ensure the smooth running of a busy specialist department. Salaries £11-13,000 + bonus. Sound skills (80/50). Age 20+? Call 01-493 5787.

GORDON-YATES

The Driving Force  
£20,000 package

The Head of Capital Markets in a leading Merchant Bank needs an experienced senior PA with drive and commitment to organise him and keep a tight rein on his team.

Working with a junior secretary in the busy dealing room, your responsibilities will range from running a total of all deals, setting up all systems and liaising with other banks. This is an exceptional assistant's role requiring someone experienced in the thrills and spills of City life with the enthusiasm and assertiveness vital in a dealing environment. Age 25-40, good shorthand, wp and computer skills essential.

Please telephone Anna Martin on 01-588 3535.

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

<b>FINE ART</b> £13,500 Long established department within a high calibre, French-speaking PA in a senior Director. As part of a multi, busy team working on international art projects, you will be liaising with clients, dealing with press and public as well as many other responsibilities. If you have good secretarial skills (80/50) and an ability to work under pressure then this is a genuine opportunity to become really involved. 01-497 2277	<b>TELEVISION RECEPTION</b> Stimulating position within an independent production/production company, are looking for a bright young and enterprising good typist to join as an administrative assistant. This is an excellent opportunity to progress and learn about all aspects of the exciting, fast moving world of television/film production. 01-497 2277	<b>STEPPING STONE TO SUCCESS</b> Looking for the real chance to get your foot on the ladder in the art and media world? We have a number of exciting openings for bright, self-motivated secretaries who want to progress, learn and develop. If you are a graduate with a degree in TV, PA, PUBLISHING or just one of the arts we are interested. 01-497 2277
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JUDY FISHER ASSOCIATES Recruitment Consultants

## ASSISTANT TO MUSIC MARKETING MANAGER

Good secretarial/admin skills and enthusiasm essential. Some experience in record business preferable. Salary £8000, please reply in writing with CV to: Susan Kennedy, 148-167 High Road, Willesden, NW10 2BG

INSTITUTE OF OPHTHALMOLOGY  
(University of London)  
PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE INSTITUTE SECRETARY

The Institute Secretary is seeking an experienced PA with a proven track record of organisational and personal skills. As the Institute is a charitable organisation, the PA will be responsible for a wide range of duties including: organising and running the Institute's annual fund-raising events, liaising with the Institute's various committees and departments, and acting as a point of contact for the Institute's many friends and supporters. The successful candidate will be a well-organised, efficient, and enthusiastic individual with excellent communication skills and a proven ability to work under pressure. The Institute offers a competitive salary and excellent benefits package. For further details and an application form, please apply to: The Institute Secretary, Institute of Ophthalmology, 200, Strand, London, WC2R 1AL

MERIDIAN  
CHARITY PA  
To £15,000

For major UK fund about to start up Countrywide Appeal. Working for the National Appeal Manager you will be involved with research and office admin. Good shorthand and WP skills. Please apply to: Meridian, 100, Strand, London, WC2R 1AL

Box 200, 01-255-1555

## Higher and Higher!

You are a young, energetic and ambitious secretary keen to reach your full potential and realise your career aspirations. Assume the role of a highly respected Assistant Bank can provide you with the exciting combination of high interest and a top salary package. The Director needs someone capable of taking responsibility and organising his resources - you will co-ordinate your own research projects, liaise with senior clients, based in the UK and abroad, arrange complex worldwide travel itineraries and handle highly confidential information. Confidence, initiative and commitment are prerequisites for this position. 80/50, £20,000 package. Specialists for young career secretaries 01-499 9175.

FINESSE CITY APPOINTMENT

A CHAIRMAN AMONG CHAIRMEN  
£18-20,000 + superb package (car)

...He has made himself a reputation for success in business that is unmatched. He has built up one of the most impressive PLC Management teams in England today, thus making his company one of the 'Greats' Profiters every year. Like it or not, Chairman he has 2 Assistants, one Business oriented, and one to run his life. We are looking for the latter. You must be capable of planning meticulously the complex arrangements that are vital to the smooth running of his life. ...to practicalities of running two houses & staff ...to the importance of a constant security vigil ...and vitally important, an eye for what's going on in the business world in relation to his own personal business interests. Previous solid Secretarial (ideally PLC) experience is vital. This exciting job role 100+/80 but is only 20% secretarial, the rest is all organising and admin. Only someone with superb social skills & presentation could do this job. Your anticipation is anticipated. Ideally come City experience but this is based in W9 and definitely aged 25 to 35. If you can honestly fill the criteria above call us urgently.

50 Pall Mall St. James's London SW1Y 5LB Telephone 01-252 8546

IF YOU WANT TO WORK SURROUNDED BY ART...  
£13000

These lovely people adore art. They are touching, intelligent, their work and they are searching for a secretarial post. Their 'very famous' art collection is one of the most beautiful treasures ever to be seen in London brought in from the exotic Orient. They desperately need a diligent, earnest Secretary to look after two charming people, ensure the fast and furious pace of life is thereby a mix of colour and beauty. This is a special company that, practically, you cannot escape out of the secretarial but a job here offers you real value in terms of satisfaction and involvement. If you have accurate shorthand and 80 typing and want a job of distinction search no further.

50 Pall Mall St. James's London SW1Y 5LB Telephone 01-252 8546

SO THEY SAY IT'S QUIET FOR TEMPS NOW ...  
WELL ...

Things are moving fast here now at Maine-Tucker Temporary and we urgently need superb Sec/PAs for creative companies (especially Wordperfect) for fun and varied long or short term assignments (excellent rates of course). If you like, please send the page please call Lisa immediately for an interview call.

50 Pall Mall St. James's London SW1Y 5LB Telephone 01-252 8546

Chairman's PA  
£20,000 - IF

When the Chairman of a large insurance reinsurance group wants to develop a new corporate planning team and is looking for a vital cog in it, he's bound to have some pretty important "ifs". So this is only

If you have the intelligence and aptitude to rise to a management role in, say, a year's time; if you have excellent secretarial skills, including computer literacy; if you have recent experience of the insurance business and know about City politics and how to make sense of it, although age is immaterial, you are really mature in thought and act; if you have the heart for detail - and discretion - like his eyes and ears; if you are well educated (and, if a graduate, arts rather than science); if you're outgoing, well presented, well spoken, type, but a team worker, willing to back up; if you can say "yes" to all that, please telephone the number below urgently!

MARY OVERTON RECRUITMENT

35 Piccadilly, London W1V 9PB Telephone 01 234 7282

Good Deal  
£15,000

Young, fun and fast-paced trading floor needs a similar minded secretary to assist Sales Manager of UK and American equities. Often working to deadlines you will be entirely responsible for running his office, compiling your own correspondence, contacting new clients and setting up presentations. You will need to be quick thinking, self-motivated and confident with 2-3 years experience and secretarial skills of 80/50 wpm. Take the initiative and call Elizabeth Williams on 01-256 5018.

HOBSTONES RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Bilinguasec

TEMPORARILY BILINGUAL??  
TOP RATES PAID

Use your flair for languages and top level secretarial skills to the full. Below are a small selection of our assignments. Immediate start:  
**GERMAN** or Swedish speaking PA required for Richmond, great boss, young company.  
**PORTUGUESE** speaking secretary for Mayfair. Project work - be your own boss.  
**SPANISH** bilingual for City bank. Great atmosphere, lots of responsibility.  
**RUSSIAN** and **POLISH** speaking secretary required for Hayes. Great boss, flexible hours.  
**FRENCH** or German bilingual secretaries required for Sussex. Small company, great atmosphere.  
**JAPANESE** speaking secretary, Japanese word processor skills essential. Lots of responsibility. Cosmopolitan atmosphere.  
**RUSSIAN** bilingual secretary required for Islington. Friendly company, flexible hours.  
Phone Sharon - join our expanding Temporary Team.

493 6446 929 5373

## Charity

## £13,000 + 6 wks hols

Join the marketing and fundraising office of a charity involved in the rehabilitation of disturbed children based in an historic square near Barbican. As secretary to the Associate Director overseeing a multi-million pound appeal, you will have responsibility for the smooth running of the office and become fully involved in all aspects of his work, a demanding but rewarding opportunity. If you have good communication ability with secretarial skills of 80/50 wpm and feel that you have something special to contribute to this worthwhile charity, please call Elizabeth Williamson on 01-256 5018.

HOBSTONES RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## SECRETARY/OFFICE ADMIN

C.£12,500 + BONUS -  
NEGOTIABLE HOURS

A mature and experienced secretary, aged 35-55, is required for the sales office of a long-established company operating in a niche market. Compact, comfortable offices off Piccadilly (close Green Park tube). Must have good all-round knowledge of standard office procedures, excellent typing skills, a professional and courteous telephone manner, and able to work primarily on own initiative. Some elementary accounting experience would be useful. Hours can be negotiable. Please call Tony Payne on 01-405 4571, or write to him at AMS Ltd., 28/29 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4EJL.

## MANPOWER

## STRAND SECRETARIES

Looking for permanent work?

Call in today at:

11 The Strand

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We have varied and interesting vacancies across London:

Call 01-839 1361

Temporary and Permanent.

Manpower makes the difference.

## Quattro

Quattro Business Systems

## PERSONAL ASSISTANT

- \* GENEROUS REWARDS & CAREER POTENTIAL
- \* RECOGNITION OF YOUR CONTRIBUTION
- \* JOIN A WINNING TEAM
- \* FIND YOUR TRUE POTENTIAL

City Based near London Bridge - up to £16K plus car.

Quattro Business Systems is an established company providing Total Solutions with Accounting and Business Management Systems for major clients located in London and the Home Counties. Because of their continued success they now urgently need the services of a professional PA.

On offer to you will be the true recognition that your skills and expertise deserve, including the value of your contribution to their overall corporate success.

Reporting to the Directors you will be responsible for high quality office services as provided by a team of secretarial support staff. The role of PA will be expanded according to your ability and willingness to take on extra responsibilities which will enhance your skills and long term career opportunities.

Almost certainly you will be working currently as a PA in a fast moving sales orientated company with responsibility for other secretarial staff.

You should be aged 25 to 35 with a business or secretarial qualification and for the right person a generous package is on offer including company car, bonus and future career opportunities.

Please contact Peter Corry-Hoyes, Managing Director at Quattro on 01-376 0780 or alternatively send your CV to:

Quattro Business Systems Limited,  
Quattro House,  
Marshalsea Road,  
London SE1 1HF.

MEDIA · FINANCE · ADVERTISING · SALES · PERSONNEL · MEDIA

European Television  
To £17,000Personal Assistant  
to Managing Director

This European Television Company committed to providing 'excellence' to their clients are looking for a first class PA with previous Board Level experience who is loyal, intelligent, and has the ability to make themselves indispensable to the Managing Director.

Your day will be demanding, and your excellent Typing, Shorthand (100/50) and proficiency of the French language are essential! You must also be accustomed to delegating to a Junior and have supervisory qualities.

First class presentation a prerequisite. Please call Nadia Quattrock 01-439 6021 for further information.

## HAZELL · STATON

RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

MEDIA · FINANCE · ADVERTISING · SALES · PERSONNEL · MEDIA

## MACKAY for Secretaries

OPEN THURSDAYS UNTIL 7PM

<b>SEC to MD</b> £16,000 SUA, IPSTL, Bonus, Pension. An indispensable assistant to this charming, bright executive, you will co-ordinate his hectic schedule, organise in-house conferences, become involved in the marketing side of his role and liaise extensively with the Far East and the USA. 5/4 essential.	<b>SEC to GM</b> £13,500 Health scheme, pension, long leave. This upmarket, go-ahead company needs you to assist dynamic, charming executives. Will be liaising with international branches and organising his intricate diary, you will become involved in all aspects of this interesting role. 5/4 essential.	<b>PERSONNEL SEC</b> £14,000 SUA, IPSTL, Bonus, Pension, LV's, IPSTL. Clearly an essential part of the large international company. Excellent opportunity to use your initiative, develop responsibility and become involved in all areas of personnel administration. Great prospects. Copy typing only.
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For a personal interview call Glynis Ranger 01-491 0383  
70-71 New Bond Street, W1 (Oxford St. end)  
Our Fax No for CVs is 01-491 2955

HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
Secretary to Senior Manager £13,000 NEG

Senior Manager requires an upmarket, professional PA/Sec to work in very nice office based in Victoria.

If you are 24+ enjoy organising and communicating with people at all levels this would interest you. Usual secretarial skills including excellent keyboard and communication skills combined with professional image are essential. 5/4 80/50 wpm.

Generous LV's and pension scheme are given.

Interested? - please Debbie Salto ASAP on 01-838 1661

No Agencies

HKDC



01-481 4481 LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME 01-481 4481

DRAKE PERSONNEL

Professional guidance and positive results!

**SALES ADMIN**  
UXBRIDGE - £10,500  
A fabulous 5 star office in landscaped grounds with a lake and sports centre is the setting for this world leader in computer components. Utilise your excellent WP skills, computer literacy with N level education in this satisfying and challenging role. Provide admin support for this European Sales team. European language an advantage.  
Call Anne Sutherland-Fraser on 01-846 9782.

**PA**  
FULHAM - UP TO £15,000  
Run the show in this involved PA role assisting a dynamic man in this rapidly growing computer company. Show off your experience and initiative in this developing role, organising and assisting the team to function well. You will be rewarded for your a/h, excellent WP and communication skills.  
Call Richard Fox on 01-846 9782.

**RECEPTION**  
£23,000 - MOST SUB  
You really will feel like royalty based on a fabulous reception in the most prestigious offices. As the first point of contact for those management consultants you will meet and greet clients, take calls, organise meetings, handle mail and book meeting rooms etc. A busy role that requires your charm and cool manner.  
Call Karina Baird on 01-823 1224.

**NEW CHALLENGE**  
SLOUGH - £14,000  
A great opportunity to stay 'local' and win a challenging role with this international organisation. Assisting two Consultants, who advise companies on their human resource planning, you will enjoy an involved role that could give you the chance to move away from Somerset. Your a/h, ability skills and organisational flair will secure this position.  
Call Karina Baird on 01-823 1224.

**WONDERFUL BOSS**  
Total involvement as you liaise with VIPs in fast moving property investment. Strength, diplomacy and sensitivity are the essential, matching your outstanding a/h and typing skills. Your main priority will be to ensure the smooth day-to-day running of the office. Fantastic prospects.  
Call Frances Griffiths on 01-734 0911.

**TRAINING SKILLS 71**  
Join this multi-national computer company and train their sales force. Dealing with their co-sell staff, you'll be responsible for motivating and training to product development. The package is excellent and includes a company car. If you have a good knowledge of FMC, call Joanne NOW on 01-734 0911.

**INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS**  
£11,500 + BENEFITS  
My client, an international advertising agency based in the West End, has an extremely busy reception. Your courtesy and proven experience with the research switchboard combined with your unflappable nature will guarantee your success.  
Call Dawn Bailey on 01-823 4031.

**BOND STREET**  
01-629 4631

**CITY**  
01-623 1224

**HAMMERSMITH**  
01-846 9782

**BOLBORN**  
01-831 0666

**KNIGHTSBRIDGE**  
01-589 5898

**STRATFORD**  
01-519 6343

**VICTORIA**  
01-334 0338

**WEST END**  
01-734 0911

**DMB&B**  
**SPRING INTO ADVERTISING**

DMB&B is a leading International Advertising Agency situated in the West End close to Piccadilly Circus tube station.

Following some promotions within our company we have a need for young, bright secretaries in a number of key areas:

- \* This busy, varied, and responsible position with masses of client contact and information research would suit a good second jobber or an excellent college leaver with confident communication and secretarial skills.
- \* One of our International groups is looking for an unflappable, diplomatic self-starter with excellent secretarial skills including audio, WP and experience in documentation. You will have the opportunity to learn the Harvard Graphics computer package and if you have a language (eg Spanish, Italian or Russian) it would be useful.
- \* We also have opportunities for 2 excellent young capable secretaries, both for interesting and involving positions.
- \* One with good shorthand which includes a high administrative content and total involvement in the day to day business of the Agency. A friendly and confident approach to people at all levels is a must in this happy department.
- \* Another, where your excellent telephone manner and communication skills together with your sound secretarial abilities could earn you a valued place in this busy team.

Ideal candidates for all these positions in our company will have an interest in advertising, be happy team players with the ability to muck in and take new responsibilities on board.

Competitive salaries will be offered for the above opportunities together with our Company Benefits including subsidised Wine Bar.

If you are interested in making a Secretarial Career at DMB&B and would like further details, please telephone

**MERRILL HIGHAM**  
01 839 3422  
(No Agencies)

**SABRE**  
Travel Information Network

A fabulous career opportunity exists with the further expansion of the SABRE Travel Information Network (STIN). STIN is part of American Airlines, the worlds largest airline.

The newly appointed Vice President STIN - Europe requires a dynamic and highly experienced secretary to assist him lead an expanding team of sales and service professionals throughout Europe. SABRE is American Airlines computerised reservations system and is the largest privately owned computer network in the world. Due to its great success within Europe the STIN operation has and is continuing to expand very rapidly.

The ideal candidate will have English, French and Spanish or German and Italian linguistic skills. They will be able to demonstrate excellent administrative abilities as well as possessing first class confidential secretarial qualifications.

In return we will offer an excellent salary, BUPA and Pension after a qualifying period, health and death benefits plus travel benefits associated with a major international airline.

If you would like to discuss this position in further detail please send a covering letter with a current c.v. stating current salary and a day time contact number to:

**Ruth Bishop**  
UK Personnel Manager  
American Airlines  
Portland House  
Stag Place  
London SW1E 5BJ

**Warm-hearted PA**  
**£15,500 + 6 weeks' holiday**

Blue-chip construction company seeks a talented Personal Assistant to organise the Chairman when he is in London and to supervise the efficient running of the London office - a superb period building in SW1.

Quality secretarial support and an ability to deal with a range of duties - from checking wine stocks to holding monthly staff meetings - are vital attributes. Most important, however, is a warm, optimistic and endlessly flexible manner to fit in with the other members of this friendly, closely-knit team.

For further information please call Lindsey Brandom 01-434 4512.

**Crone Corkill**

**ADMINISTRATOR**  
**£12,500 - £14,100 plus excellent benefits**

We are currently seeking a first-class administrator to undertake various aspects of our work with special emphasis on maintaining membership records, servicing committees, organising meetings and training courses as well as taking responsibility for certain internal communication processes.

Applicants should be educated to at least "A" level standard, have several years experience of office administration and be able to work with minimum supervision. Sound communication skills (oral and written) are essential and ability to type is desirable (cross training to WP is provided if necessary).

Our pleasant modern offices are situated in Central London and we offer a range of benefits including mortgage subsidy, BUPA and a non-contributory pension scheme.

Please write, enclosing full CV to Louise Coffey,  
Staff Relations Officer, The Building Societies Association,  
3 Seville Row, London W1K 1AF

**TM**  
01-584 3222  
01-584 3222

**FRENCH**  
**£18,000**

Le Président d'une organisation de réputation mondiale recherche une assistante de haut niveau pour le secondar dans son travail. Il est indispensable de pouvoir traiter avec des personnes de haut niveau en français; oral, en personnel, au téléphone et par écrit. Speeds 80/80. Age 25+.

**CAREER IN PR**

Our client, a successful and growing company is looking for a young secretary who is serious about a career in PR. The going will be tough to begin with, but very quickly you will be trained up to become an account executive with continual salary rises to match! Typing 50 wpm. Age 20+.

Please call us for an interview until 6.00pm.  
LONDON BRUSSELS

**PERSONNEL ADMIN/ SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR**  
**£17,500 package**

Join forces with this high-profile Lewisham company if you've secretarial expertise & good communication skills. Used to working in a hectic, young environment, you'll enjoy extensive phone liaison with recruitment agencies and in-house depts. Broaden your considerable PC and software know-how too with comprehensive computer x-training. A diverse and challenging role for which previous experience and flexibility are definite pluses.

Call YVONNE THOMPSON,  
01 464 5125

**Office Angels**

**NEWS INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPERS LIMITED**  
**SECRETARY TO INSURANCE MANAGER**  
**AGED 23 PLUS**  
**SALARY: £13,975**

Excellent opportunity for a first class shorthand secretary (100/60 together with Wordstar 2000 release 5) to provide full secretarial and administrative support to the Insurance Manager. You should possess good interpersonal skills, together with the ability to work under pressure.

In return an excellent benefits package is offered which includes six weeks holiday and BUPA.

Apply in writing only enclosing a comprehensive CV together with daytime telephone number to:

**Brenda Hemmings,**  
Recruitment Manager,  
News International Limited,  
PO Box 481, Virginia Street,  
London E1 9BD

**DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES**  
**PA with Panache**  
**£18,000**

A perceptive and ambitious individual is sought by the Head of a thriving, expanding selection consultancy. The pace is fast but there are ample opportunities to develop your own role away from the confines of secretarial routine. Just prove you're worth it! Age 25-30. Speeds 100/60

01-629 9323

**DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES**  
**City**  
**- £18,000**

A role of variety and challenge at the top of a major finance house awaits a PA whose background and experience will have developed a basic understanding of City life. A mix of business and private work in a congenial and relaxed atmosphere. Age: 25 - 33. Speeds 100/60.

01-629 9323

**Market Abroad**  
**£13,500 + bonus**  
**Victoria**

France, Germany and Spain will be your main liaison points as you work for the super European Marketing Manager of this large international company. As part of the marketing department you will be organising travel, planning meetings, teleconferencing with lots of telephone work. Languages useful but not essential. Excellent package including free lunch and 24 days holidays. 80/50 wpm. Age 20-25. Please call Lesley Blake on 01-457 0651.

**HOBSTONES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**P.A. Required**

Major software supplier to accountants in precise requires a P.A. for the Executive Director. Must be computer literate, wordperfect or DTP skills and able to manage events, client contact. Company is based on the Australian stock exchange and London will become the base for European expansion. Attractive Package available.

Reply in writing to Operations Director, Solution 6,  
c/o 216 Goldhawk Road, London W12 9NX.

**FAME! FORTUNE! GLAMOUR!**

Is that what you're after? We can't offer you any - BUT - in return for your shorthand, typing and reception experience, we can offer a varied role for a lively, young all-rounder in a busy Music Management Company.

£11,000.

Now, if that sounds more like what you're after - call us.

**Bernadette of Bond Street**  
Recruitment Consultants  
No. 55 (next door to Fenwick's)  
01 - 629 1204

**TV OR NOT TV?**  
**£14,000 pa AAE**

There's really no question about it, is there? If you feel more at home in a highly commercial, marketing driven environment, you're unlikely to be happy acting out your part in a typical "City" role. So, why not put your experience and good secretarial skills to better use by joining a charming Sales Executive of this thoroughly switched-on, Covent Garden-based Television Group. Mid 20's, talented shorthand secretary, wherefore art thou? Please call Ros Prescott on 01-491-1868. La Creme Consultants.

**Creative Creme**

**PA/SECRETARY**  
**To Director**  
**Executive Search & Management Consultancy**  
**c. £14,000+bonus+hens.**

Unusually interesting job working with a Director in friendly and dynamic W1 offices.

This busy PA position includes involvement with Research, Report preparation, Client and Candidate contact, organising travel, references, medicals etc. If you are 25-40 with good relevant experience, intelligence, initiative and fast audio-typing (shorthand useful), please Linda Barnes - 01-388 2051.

**EVENT ORGANISATION SECRETARY £12,000**

Great opportunity for a versatile secretary with excellent skills (shorthand not necessary) to join a happy, cohesive team organising events from award evenings to charity functions.

Working primarily for two Account Managers, you will be given every opportunity to use your initiative and develop your role.

This interesting and progressive company strongly believes in career growth on merit, so ability will be recognised and rewarded.

Age 21 - 25

01-499 6366

**The GROSVENOR**  
Bureau

**WEST END ART GALLERY**  
require  
**administrator/secretary**  
with bookkeeping skills. Fluent French an advantage. Please ring Maria Wilson on 01-839 4716.

**PA FOR CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR**  
CENTRAL LONDON  
Organisation and communication skills required as the highest level. Salary negotiable and commensurate only with your ability.  
Reply to BOX 861

**2nd Jobber Investment**  
**£15,000 p/yr**  
Be part of a dynamic, successful team and join an international American Investment Bank based in W1. Working for two young, approachable executives you will keep them both on an even keel, ensuring they stay on track (literally and figuratively) and providing sound secretarial support (80/50 wpm). You will enjoy a professional, friendly environment where you will be encouraged to take on responsibility with the chance to progress within the company.

Please call  
Fiona Martin  
on 01-434 4512.

**Born Organiser**  
**£12,000**

Friendly, professional from near Chancery Lane need bright, enthusiastic secretary to organise and monitor courses, arrange internal and external lunches, as well as typing reports and confidential documents. If you enjoy working in a relaxed, sociable environment, are aged 20-30 and have excellent skills of 50 wpm audio,

please call  
Evelyn Marsden  
on 01-356 5018.

**CRONE CORKILL**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**NEW CLASSICAL MUSIC VENTURE**  
(W1 AND SW19)  
Being opportunity for Secretary to MD. Good WP, initiative, music lover, to £12,000.  
Call 01 830 6332.

**SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST**  
for specialist dental Practice W1. Audio, word processing experience essential.  
Salary £12,500.  
To £12,500.  
Tel: 01-487 3531

**SALES & MARKETING**  
**OTE £20,000 ++**

Looking for a challenging change of direction? Come and join our busy Marketing Department here at South Hodge. If you've got previous sales experience, drive and self motivation to excel in this competitive field, we'll give you all the training you need to sell and market our professional service. Call Carole Peppercorn on 034-0090 for an informal chat.

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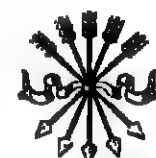
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For an application form and job description, please send a self-addressed envelope (16 x 25cm) to the Personnel and Training Department, Arts Council, 105 Piccadilly, London W1V 0AU. Tel: 01-629 9495 ext 266. Please quote ref P2. Closing date for completed application forms: Thursday 22nd March 1990.

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Director of PR group in City needs meticulous attention to detail from a calm, quick-witted professional secretary who enjoys taking responsibility in the absence of frequent absences. A good standard of English is as essential as fast WPM. Age 21 - 27

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## A black and white photograph of a two-story house with a gabled roof and dormer windows. The house features a patterned facade, possibly a lattice or screen, on the upper level. A covered porch is visible on the right side. The house is surrounded by trees and a lawn.

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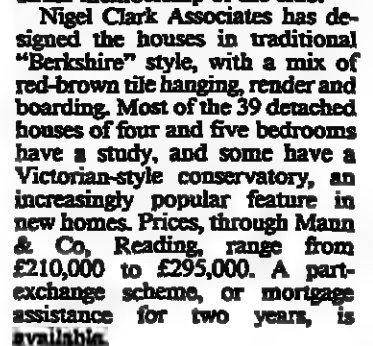


# Wooing the wary buyer

He believes that the prices for the Battersea houses, £199,000-£232,500, represents that value.

Berkeley Homes (North London) is building a block of flats at Stanmore Hill, north London, which promises to be special (it has sold a penthouse flat there for more than £500,000 before a brick has been laid). The Wellington House development will be surrounded by a Grade II listed brick wall, 10ft high with plastered buttresses, dating from the late 18th or early 19th century.

The Georgian-style block will be octagonal, with two bays at the front and porticoed doors at the

[illegible]



## COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

By Christopher Warran  
Property Correspondent

## The new Europe

An international commercial property fair, the first of its kind, is taking place this week-end in Cannes in anticipation of the opportunities the single European market will bring in 1992.

About 3,000 international developers, investors and agents are expected to attend the Marché International des Professionnels de l'Immobilier (MIPIM), a Paris-based trade fair company which is a subsidiary of Reed International, the British publisher and organizer of professional exhibitions.

Businessmen from the United States and Japan will be joining Europeans at Cannes. Among the British exhibitors are Rosehaugh, Imry Merchant, Ernst & Young, Randsworth and Watergate.

The market comes at a time when the property business is poised to break traditional barriers. Changing market conditions and Gross Domestic Product growth scheduled to fall to 1.9 per cent in 1990 are encouraging developers to broaden their horizons.

Kevin McGovern, who is responsible for Rosehaugh's activities in Europe as well as its largest city schemes, said that MIPIM would provide an opportunity to create an international property showcase, and at the same time consider such issues as international regulations, finance and planning and the environment.

The two main themes will be the

## A Cannes trade fair looks towards an open Europe and the East for expansion

and cross-country market conditions. It is generally expected that the unification of the European market will result in deregulation, leading to increased competition. France and Spain are being seen as particularly ripe for development, and French firms appear to be well-prepared and enthusiastic about the single market.

Eugene Bannon, partner in the management consultants and accountants Ernst & Young, argues that there is still work to be done. "The differences between member states in laws relating to tenure forms and contracts can only be addressed by legislation, but success depends on the willingness of member states to accept directives from Brussels."

The European Commission was discussing a standard form of contract, but such a form would have to be very flexible to cover different contracting approaches, legal concepts, and would have to be equally valid in civil and common law.

British industry has been slow to appreciate the full potential of the single market and to prepare for the opportunities it can provide.

At present, says Mr Bannon, the

top 20 British property companies have only 3 per cent of their total holdings in Europe, but he detects a new mood towards Europe, with a number of big companies announcing their intention to invest on the Continent.

Looking at a European market worth an estimated £260 billion, he highlights the difference in approach by the British and French. "The British have been made aware of the impact only over the past year," he says.

"They have had little time to prepare for 1992, and consequently just 15 per cent have any sort of plans. Their French counterparts have been aware of the significance of the single market for the last three years, so 50 per cent of them have developed plans."

It is no longer only western Europe which is the focus of attention. MIPIM says that with the reform process advancing at speed, international property eyes are beginning to turn towards eastern Europe.

The region's economic co-operation zone, known as Comecon, has a population of 390 million, compared with 320 million in the EC.

This has led to nearly 1,000 joint ventures in the past year as the East provides the land, equipment and sometimes the labour, while the West brings in the know-how.

Leading the field are the West Germans with 300 projects, the Italians with 150 and French with 100.



Speyhawk's riverside office development (pictured), forming part of the redevelopment of Old Isleworth, has attracted two new lettings. The Lion Court development, financed by Postel Property Services, has brought in Mowlem, which has taken a 25-year lease on the 14,760 sq ft first floor and a further 11,300 sq ft on the ground floor at a combined rental of £675,000. The ground floor of Swan Court has been taken by Marketing Perspectives, which is moving from the West End, at a rental of £114,000. Agents Edward Erdman say that the riverside village setting and on-site parking have proved attractive selling points.

## Reaping the fruits of London's vegetables

The £1 billion Spitalfields development in the City of London has been given royal assent after a two year progress through Parliament.

The enactment of the City of London (Spitalfields) Bill, sponsored by the City Corporation, the site owners, allows the existing

fruit and vegetable market to move to a purpose-built complex at Temple Mills, in Waltham Forest, 3.5 miles away.

The Spitalfields Development Group has applied for planning consent for the redevelopment of the 12-acre market site, which will be dominated by 800,000 sq ft of

offices and is due for completion in 1994.

The group is also proposing 200,000 sq ft of shopping space, featuring a seven-storey high "galleria", restaurants and bars, social housing and private flats and three acres of public open space.

The social housing, which includes sheltered accommodation, is the central feature of a £50 million community benefits package which includes employment initiatives designed to ensure that many of the 6,000 new jobs generated by the development go to local people.

## COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

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## THE TIMES

## Commercial Property

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## FACTORY PREMISES

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## RENTALS

## MOVING PLACES

## Letting &amp; Property Management

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## TOWER PROPERTY SERVICES

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## No remedy for flawed council decision    Payment to wife from army gratuity

making any other kind of order since the pensioner had safely received the sum of money to which he was due under the pension arrangements to which the section was directed.

Section 203(1) was concerned with preventing the pensioner from charging or assigning any sum of money which was due to him as a result of his service

from preventing the pensioner from charging or assigning any sum of money which was due to him as a result of his service before he ever had the chance of enjoying the benefit of it.

The two subsections of Section 203 dealt with quite different problems and did not have any direct bearing upon each other, other than to define the sort of orders in respect of which the powers of the court were to be inhibited under Section 203(2).

Thus, for the purposes of the powers of the court under Section 203(1), the

tion 25 of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 in relation to the distribution of family assets / way of making a lump sum provision, subject to the provisions of section 25, those were no way affected by the provisions of section 203 of the

**ing lawful**

provisions were unreasonable and misleading as they implied that there was no such risk as stated in the case of an unsecured loan, and it was pointed out that a defaulting debtor under an unsecured loan would, by way of a charging order and subsequent order for sale, lose his property. However, it was accepted that there was a more immediate risk in the case of a loan secured by a

danger of people taking up secured loans at higher rates interest simply by reason of its being a warning in the one

## Revisions to Commercial Court Guide

**damage**

On the present case there was a relationship of bailor and bailee and the damage was foreseeable in nature, if not in extent. The defendant had failed to take sufficient care to prevent unauthorized entry to the premises.

## Home risk warning in loans advertising lawful

provisions were unreasonable and misleading as they implied that there was no such risk as stated in the case of an unsecured loan, and it was pointed out that a defaulting debtor under an unsecured loan

However, it was accepted that there was a more immediate risk in the case of a loan secured by a mortgage on a building.

danger of people taking up secured loans at higher rates of interest simply by reason of there being a warning in the one case but not in the other.

**Solicitors: Davis & Co, Har-**  
**row, Treasury Solicitor.**

**damage**

vent squatters entering on land and thereafter behaving as to cause the neighbour

in the present case there was a relationship of bailor and bailee and the damage was foreseeable

nature, if not in extent. The defendant had failed to take sufficient care to prevent unauthorized entry to the premises.

## Bailee's duty to prevent damage by third party's act

vent squatters entering on  
land and thereafter behaving  
as to cause the neighbour

in the present case there was a relationship of bailor and bailee and the damage was foreseeable

nature, if not in extent. The defendant had failed to take sufficient care to prevent unauthorized entry to the premises.

[illegible]











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